3 Companions of Youth Slain in Attempted Robbery Are Seized

Special Dispatch to The Star

COLONIAL BEACH, Va., Feb. 13.—Charles County, Md., authorities are holding three Virginians in connection with the attempted robbery of a slot machine pierhead here yesterday, which resulted in the fatal shooting of a 19-year-old youth.

The three in custody at La Plata, Md., were identified as Paul Houff, 21, and Bain Thompson, 23, both of Floyd, Va., and a 16-year-old boy of Weedonville, Va.

The fourth member of the gang, Albert Paul Sweeney, jr., 19, of Floyd, was killed instantly by a shotgun blast fired by Dennis R. Connor, 26, a watchman at Little Reno, a slot machine and liquor spot on the wharf end over Maryland water.

Brother of Operator.

Mr. Connor is a brother of Delbert W. Connor, who operates Little Reno and the Ambassador Hotel on the beachfront here.

Authorities of both States agreed that Charles County which lies directly across the Potomac River, has jurisdiction. Slot machine and liquor licenses used on wharves jutting out from the shore are issued by Charles County on the premise that Maryland owns the Potomac to low-water mark on the Virginia side.

Relating his story through Attorney John E. Mayo of Colonial Beach, Dennis Connor said Little Reno had been robbed last November and again just before Christmas.

Two Guards on Duty.

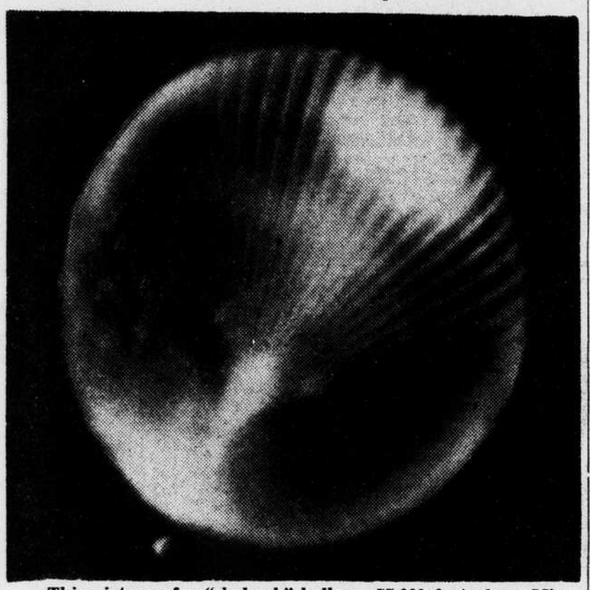
After the last entrance in which about $75 in coins was taken from slot machines, one or more guards had been on duty at night. Sunday night Dennis Connor and Paul Allen were on guard.

At 2:30 a.m. the guards heard a noise at a side window and saw the window swing open. A man's leg was across the window-sill inside the room when Connor shouted, "Stop. That's as far as you're going."

Then Conner ran to the front door, knocked out two glass panels with his 20-gauge repeating shotgun and opened fire.

Mr. Barbour said he did not contemplate filing charges against either Mr. Connor or Mr. Allen.

Flying Saucers Really Balloons For Navy Cosmic Ray Studies



This picture of a "skyhook" balloon, 77,000 feet above Minneapolis, was taken through a refracting telescope during cosmic ray studies. This is a Look Magazine photograph from the University of Minnesota. —AP Wirephoto.

By the Associated Press

A Navy official confirmed today that "flying saucers" really existed but actually were huge balloons used in high-altitude cosmic ray studies.

Dr. Urner Liddel, chief of the nuclear physics branch of the Office of Naval Research, made this disclosure in an article in the current Look magazine.

Dr. Liddel, in Washington, discussed the Look story further when newsmen queried him.

The Navy balloons, Dr. Liddel declared, were 100 feet in diameter and sometimes rose to a height of 19 miles. He added that winds might sweep them along at 200 miles an hour.

At dusk, the slanting rays of the sun lighted up the balloons' bottoms, giving them the saucer-like appearances, Dr. Liddel said.

He added that many of the disks were sighted as the sun set.

Dr. Liddell said the existence of the big balloons was kept secret because the project was connected wtih atomic developments.

Dr. Liddel, who was in charge of the balloon tests, said they carried instruments to record the results of collisions between cosmic rays and atoms in the earth's atmosphere.

He added that secrecy was "no longer" necessary.

The physicist said 2,000 reports of "flying saucers" were checked, and those considered "whimsical" were eliminated. Of the "reliable" reports, he said "there is not a single . . . observation which is not attributable to the cosmic balloons."

These balloons, called "skyhooks" by the Navy, were first used in 1947, about the time the disks were first sighted. Dr. Liddel said reports of "flying saucers" increased in proportion to the number of balloons sent aloft.

Dr. Liddel said he was convinced that a "saucer" photographed at 77,000 feet altitude over Minnesota was a "skyhook."

Busbey Links Himself With TV Commentator Seized at Atom Plant

By the Associated Press

Representative Busbey, Republican, of Illinois last night linked himself with Paul Harvey, the Chicago radio and television commentator, who made a night-time incursion into the grounds of an atomic laboratory last week and was taken into temporary custody.

Mr. Busbey said in a statement: "I am one of several persons in Washington who have worked with Paul Harvey on certain phases of an investigation of our Nation's security."

Mr. Busbey asked that Mr. Harvey and some other persons be given a hearing in a closed session of the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee.

Harvey Remaining Silent.

"Mr. Harvey, bound by matters involving security and confidence, is remaining silent, even to the extent of placing his reputation in jeoparly," Mr. Busbey said.

According to high Government officials, preliminary investigation has indicated no criminal intent upon Mr. Harvey's part when he entered the grounds of the Argonne National Laboratories, on the outskirts of Chicago.

These officials have said evidence pointed to an attempt to obtain material for a broadcast on security arrangements at the laboratory.

Mr. Harvey has said the episode will be cleared in due time but added he was not in position to provide details.

Chairman McMahon said the Senate-House Atomic Committee is not planning any full-scale investigation of its own.

Defended by Union Leader.

In Chicago, a union leader came to Mr. Harvey's defense.

Merlin W. Griffith, business agent of the independent Argonne Guards Union, praised the commenator for showing up what Mr. Griffith said were security "flaws" at Argonne. He went on:

"I am sure if he (Mr. Harvey) and the two guards accused of helping him had of (SIC) been trained saboteurs there would have been no atomic plant left to look at.

"For security reasons I cannot divulge the actual weakness of security that existed at the time Paul Harvey was apprehended.

"I will be glad to give this information to the proper investigating authorities."

The AEC said Mr. Harvey was seized by a guard just after he climbed over a fence. He was questioned and released.

2-Year-Old Girl's Eyes Traded For Her Life at Mayo Clinic

By the Associated Press

LITTLE STURGEON, Wis., Feb. 12.—Two-year-old Mary Jo May is learning to play in darkness after trading her eyes for her life.

Both eyes were removed at the Mayo Clinic.

The operation came after Mary Jo's parents became alarmed when they read a newspaper article about Carolyn Joan Purcell, of Alpharetta, Ga., whose case paralleled that of their daughter.

In Carolyn Joan's case Mayo Clinic specialists disagreed with the earlier diagnosis and the eyes were spared. But no relief came for Mary Jo; her eyes were removed on January 25 and brown plastic eyes fitted in their places. She returned to her parents' farm home 4 miles east of this northeastern Wisconsin community over the week end.

When Mary Jo was 15 months her parents noticed her left eye had a glassy appearance. The right eye seemed crossed. After a cursory examination a doctor friend told the parents it was nothing to worry about.

But the story about Carolyn Joan Purcell worried the parents and they went to see a Green Bay specialist. He diagnosed it as cancer. Mrs. May, her sister and Mary Jo went to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., on January 21. Mr. May and the couple's three other small children stayed home and prayed.

Six doctors examined Mary Jo's eyes. One already could only distinguish between day and night. The other was badly damaged.

When his wife and a doctor telephoned that the choice was sightless life or death, Mr. May said he didn't know what to answer. Finally he told them to go ahead and remove the eyes.

"What else was I going to do?" he said afterward. "I felt like calling him back and saying no. But I didn't. We wanted Mary Jo with us alive."

Mary Jo—unaware of what her new surroundings meant — was quickly prepared for the operation. When the bandages came off her empty sockets four days later, she sobbed out: "I can't wake up, mommy. I can't wake up."

Runway Lights Fail, Flares Save 56 in Plane Landing

By the Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif., Feb. 13.—Quick action by police got 56 airliner passengers safely down to earth last night after a blown fuse extinguished Oakland Airport runway lights minutes before their plane was scheduled to land.

Officers Dave Nohn and H. W. Limpert rushed emergency flares to the airport and six minutes after they had outlined the main runway, the DC-6 from Phoenix, Ariz., made a safe landing.

Regular 24-hour emergency flares were used to light runways for five other plane landings before the cause of the failure was discovered.

Increased pay for soldiers of Northern Ireland's army resulted in a 100 per cent increase in the number of recruits.

High Wool Prices Force Australian Skirts Higher

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb. 13 (CDN).—Men can expect to see a lot more of their womenfolk soon, according to Australian fashion experts.

The "knee look," they say, is going to be the 1951 fashion rage —with skirt hemlines 17 inches from the ground. The main reason: High prices for Australian wool are forcing conservation of material.

What if wool prices go still higher. So will the skirts.

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RFC

(Continued From First Page.)

sharp issue with President Truman.

The President last Thursday described the subcommittee's recent report as asinine. He also said he saw no reason why Mr. Dawson, his assistant for personnel matters, should volunteer to go before the subcommittee.

The Arkansas Democratic Senator, who in 1946 suggested that President Truman resign for reasons of party harmony, after the Republicans captured the 80th Congress, said yesterday he would not retract anything in the February 2 report.

It was carefully gone over and approved by the full committee, and "it speaks for itself," he said. He added that the President's rebuke resulted "from a fit of temper rather than a challenge to accuracy of the report."

Unjust, Douglas Says.

He nodded in agreement, however, when Senator Douglas commented that "it is highly important here in Washington that we be patient with one another." The subcommittee, Senator Douglas said, regarded the President's comments as "very unjust" but appreciated that many "more important" worries beset the President and perhaps sharpen his temper on occasion. The subcommittee's motives, nevertheless, are "just, and we want to get to the bottom of this without smearing any one." Senator Douglas contended.

As for Mr. Dawson, Senator Fulbright said it will be up to the subcommittee to decide whether to subpoena him, as has been demanded by Senator Capehart, Republican, of Indiana, a subcommittee member.

Referring to "outsiders" in general, such as E. Merl Young, insurance broker frequently criticized in the report, Senator Fulbright went on to say:

"These outsiders are incidental to the main objective of the subcommittee. I wouldn't see any particular need for subpoenas for them. If they want to be heard I'd be glad to hear them.

"The objective of the committee is not to eliminate influence in Washington. The principal aim is to create a strong enough RFC management to resist influence. Outside persons, I suppose, are necessarily a part of such an investigation. But there always will be people seeking to influence. The most effective way to handle the problem is to assure strong agencies and administration to resist them."

Points to Public Conclusion.

It was at this point Senator Fulbright remarked that the public might reasonably conclude that the report's references to Mr. Dawson are correct, if he did not seek an opportunity to appear at the forthcoming hearings. Whether or not he testifies, Mr. Dawson is "very likely" to be mentioned in the course of the hearings, he said.

Senator Douglas, commenting on the problem of favoritism and influence affecting RFC loans, noted that peculiar dangers, pressures and influences always are present when the Government makes direct loans to individuals or provides subsidies.

Resistance Needed.

"That is true no matter what party is in power," he continued. "You need people who can resist those pressures. Just as the human body is a prey to senility, so an agency of government can deteriorate and must be made strong. The RFC has picked up a prize collection of germs and its resistance is at a low ebb."

Both Senators noted that the inquiry has not produced evidence of criminal wrong-doing.

Even before the nominations reached the Capitol yesterday, there were predictions that the Senate would reject at least three of the five. The President first submitted them, including two then already in office, last August. The Senate did not act before the end of the 81st Congress.

President Truman sent in the nominations less than an hour after talking with Chairman Maybank of the full committee. Senator Maybank said he told the President he opposed putting RFC under the Commerce Department. He also told the President, he said, that Mr. Dawson ought to testify before the subcommittee.

Senator Fulbright announced yesterday he would vote against confirmation of Walter L. Dunham, William E. Willett and C. Edward Rowe, specifically mentioned in the report. There was no mention of Chairman W. Elmer Harber and Walter E. Cosgriff.

Believes Three Unfit.

Senator Douglas explained he would "retain an open mind." But he added that "I have seen nothing to date to cause me to change my earlier opinion that the three are not fit to serve."

In any event, both Senators said the nominations may never get committee or Senate action. At least they will not be considered until after the hearings on "influence and favoritism" in RFC, they predicted.

President Truman said last week he will submit a proposal to put the RFC in the Commerce Department or possibly the Treasury. Senator Fulbright sponsor of a bill to abolish the Board of Directors and substitute a single administrator, said he might support a shift to the Treasury. He would insist, however, that RFC "be as independent as it could be."

Senator Douglas recommended that Congress have "direct access to RFC and not have to deal through the intermediary of a department."

Wages

(Continued From First Page.)

the country have been stalemated since the January 26 wage freeze because of the absence of a formula as to what the board would approve in the way of an increase. Some officials fear widespread unrest among labor unless the situation is straightened out immediately.

Mr. Johnston would have the authority either to approve the public members' recommendations and put them in effect or to set his own wage increase formula. It was believed, however, that he would go along with the public members in the matter.

The three public members, of which Mr. Ching is one, last week suggested that the board should allow future wage increases of 8 per cent with another cost-of-living adjustment to be permitted on the basis of Government cost-of-living figures as of next April 15.

Would Include Fringe Benefits.

The 8 per cent represents the rise-of-living cost since January 1, 1950. Labor-management contracts in the future that would go beyond that amount would not be allowed. The 8 per cent would include not only straight pay increases but also fringe benefits such as welfare and retirement funds.

The three labor members have indicated they want a formula approving at least a 12 per cent straight wage increase not including fringe benefits.

The three industry members so far have not indicated they would accept a wage formula of any size.

The board has put in effect several parts of the general wage control policy including machinery for approval of merit and intra-plant increases. It also, with the three industry members dissenting, gave blanket approval to wage increases agreed to but not put in effect until after the freeze deadline of January 29.

India's Prime Minister, having dropped the title of "Pandit" (learned man) now is known simply as Mr. Nehru or Shir Nehru.

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A—18 THURSDAY, February 15, 1951

Congressional Merry-Go-Round

The daylight-saving merry-go-round is starting up again. Year after year Congress goes on this joyride, while matters of much greater importance wait. This year, with national and international problems of grave moment facing both houses, it is absurd for the legislators to devote attention to a question which the District could handle more satisfactorily without congressional aid—or interference. Yet there is no escape from the perennial chore as long as Congress insists on going through the routine of debating and passing temporary daylight-saving legislation.

Now is the time to stop this nonsense. It could be ended for good by passage of the permanent "fast time" bill which Representative Klein of New York has introduced. This bill, similar to those which the Senate has approved in recent years but which were turned down by the House, would give the District Commissioners permanent authority to proclaim daylight saving in Washington without consulting Congress. That solution, Mr. Klein points out, would spare Congress the trouble of "frittering away precious hours and days in debating the annual daylight-saving question." Most of the debate in the past has had to do with what the farmers think of daylight saving, although the pertinent issue is what the people of the District of Columbia think of it. For the pending bill concerns only the District.

Mr. Klein has also introduced, as an unrecommended alternative, a bill which would grant daylight saving to Washington just for this year. The temporary plan ought to be thrown into the waste basket without further ado. By enacting the permanent legislation Congress would settle the question once and for all, as it should have done long ago.

Shattered Saucers

The Navy's explanation of the flying-saucer stories seems more plausible than anything that has been said heretofore on the much-discussed subject, but there is no assurance that the last has been heard of the things. People who have seen flying saucers or sea serpents do not like to be disillusioned. And to have one's saucer shattered by balloon-flying scientists is not easy to take.

The Office of Naval Research, with an air of finality, declares that the flying saucers seen by so many persons during the past few years were really large cosmic ray balloons of plastic, sent to great heights to record solar radiations. Until recently this project—related to atomic research—was kept secret. There had been reports that such balloons were aloft, but no official information as to the details and extent of the undertaking was released. Meanwhile the saucer sightings increased in number and vividness, numerous serious newspaper and magazine articles were written about them and several official denials that Federal-sponsored saucer experiments were under way came from the Air Force and other sources.

Dr. Urner Liddel, chief of the Nuclear Physics Branch of the Office of Naval Research, says that, significantly, the first saucer reports appeared in the press in the summer of 1947, when the first of the 100-foot balloons were released. The balloons, called "skyhooks," carried delicate instruments to heights of approximately 19 miles. Sometimes the silvery objects were caught in winds which swept them along at speeds up to 200 miles an hour. As large numbers of the "skyhooks" were loosed in various parts of the country, the number of "saucers" increased correspondingly. The rays of the setting sun made these balloons appear like great floating saucers. Dr. Liddel disclosed that an investigation established that the fatal crash of an Air Force pilot who had radioed that he was chasing a flying disc occurred while he actually was pursuing one of the Navy's skyhooks.

Perhaps the Navy's announcement will cause observers of future strange objects in the sky to take a second look, keeping in mind "Operation Skyhook." Imaginations being what they are, however, it will be very surprising if all the what-is-its spied in the heavens in this era of atomic power can be explained away by cosmic physicists. Besides, it would be too bad if there were no flying saucers or Loch Ness monsters to break the monotony of depressing headlines in these troubled times.

Give the FBI an Even Break

Attorney General McGrath's pleas for congressional action on legislation to permit wiretapping by the Federal Bureau of Investigation may seem to be repetitious, but the matter is so urgent that Congress should not be allowed to forget the subject. The practice for some years has been to shove wiretapping bills into a convenient pigeonhole and let them die there. The continued delay, however, plays into the hands of Red spies, who must wonder at the strange ethics of a Government which hamstrings its counterintelligence forces with legal restrictions against tapping wires of enemy agents.

Several bills to remedy this grave weakness in our internal security system were introduced in the House with the convening of the Congress, and all were referred to the Judiciary Committee. One of these bills is sponsored by the Department of Justice. Most of the others conform generally to the administration measure. The proposed legislation would authorize the FBI and other intelligence agencies to tap wires in cases involving the national security and to use the evidence so obtained in Federal court. The authority would be granted in specific cases by a judge, upon a showing of necessity.

No wiretapping hearings have been held as yet and none is scheduled. Meanwhile foreign agents are taking full advantage of the immunity from prosecution which present law accords them under the unfortunate language of the Federal Communications Act forbidding interception and divulgence of messages. Prosecution of several known spies has been frustrated by this law.

The Times Demand It

In both an immediate and long-term sense, the military manpower bill just approved by the Senate Armed Services Committee is so well tailored to these dangerously uncertain and explosive times that Congress as a whole should feel impelled to adopt it, or something very much like it, by an overwhelming vote.

Formally entitled the Universal Military Training and Service Act, the bill is the end-result of more than a month of intensive and painstaking effort by the committee's Preparedness Subcommittee headed by Senator Johnson of Texas. Although its authors do not claim perfection for it, its critics will be hard put to show how any of its essentials can be cut away without leaving the security of the Nation on a woefully weak foundation.

For the bill, as explained in an admirably lucid and convincing statement by Senator Johnson, provides for two things that are absolutely indispensable to the safety of the United States in the kind of world we have now and the kind of world we are likely to have for years to come. The first is the manpower that is needed immediately to cope with the present crisis. And the second is the reservoir of trained strength that we must build up if we are to be adequately prepared to avert grave perils in the future.

Accordingly, to meet the immediate need for a minimum of 3,500,000 men in the armed forces by next June, the bill would lower the present induction age and authorize Selective Service to take 18-year-olds, but with this important proviso: That they would be called *after, and only after*, the manpower supply in the older groups had been exhausted. The first to go would be all the unmarried and physically fit aged 19 through 25. Next in line would be all the 19-through-25 single youths with physical defects not serious enough to disqualify them from limited duty. Finally, before any 18-year-old were drafted, all married individuals in the eligible bracket would be called, except fathers and veterans.

As for the long-range security objective, the bill would provide as follows: (1) Upon completing his tour of active duty (26 months, including two months of leave), each man trained for service would move into the reserve for six years—an arrangement insuring the retention of soldierly skills and creating what Senator Johnson has called a predictable, dependable, constant, ever-ready force of militarily seasoned manpower serving as a base for strategic planning against future dangers. And (2) when the need for rapid mobilization ceases (in which case authority would exist to end the draft and shorten the 26-month service period), there would be established a program of Universal Training to guarantee the continued maintenance of adequate reserves—a system which we should have long since put into operation.

Everything considered, the major provisions of this bill—under which most of the men affected would serve in the Army, because the Navy and Air Force are built on long-term enlistees—seem definitely to be quite as sound and as fair as they are essential. As far as the current situation is concerned, who can doubt that prompt affirmative action on just such legislation is sorely needed? After all, in Senator Johnson's words, we have suffered about 50,000 casualties in Korea, we have only one ready division available for the defense of our country, and we are engaged in an inescapable struggle for survival—a struggle whose end is not in sight. And so—whether we like it or not—we must build up our military manpower, and we must do it as quickly as we can.

Of course, there is always the possibility that world tensions will suddenly ease and that the size of our armed forces in being will be out of proportion to our security needs. At the moment, however, no possibility could seem more remote than that, and what we must keep in mind, in any event, is that the sooner we develop military strength of the sort envisioned in the proposed bill, the better chance there will be to avert new Koreas and the catastrophe of a global war.

Clearly, this is no time for half measures. As Senator Johnson has said, "It is better for a prudent nation to have and not need, than to need and not have . . . Too often, the strength of American arms has been 'paper strength.' Our greatest peril has been our own lack of preparation for hours of peril." Let us profit therefore from our past mistakes and do all that the present hour requires.

It's Become Boring

The United Nations General Assembly, formalizing action taken earlier by its Political and Security Committee, has made short shrift of Soviet charges of American aggression against Red China. In effect, they have been tossed in the waste basket as just another example of the Kremlin's phony propaganda and its technique of the Big Lie.

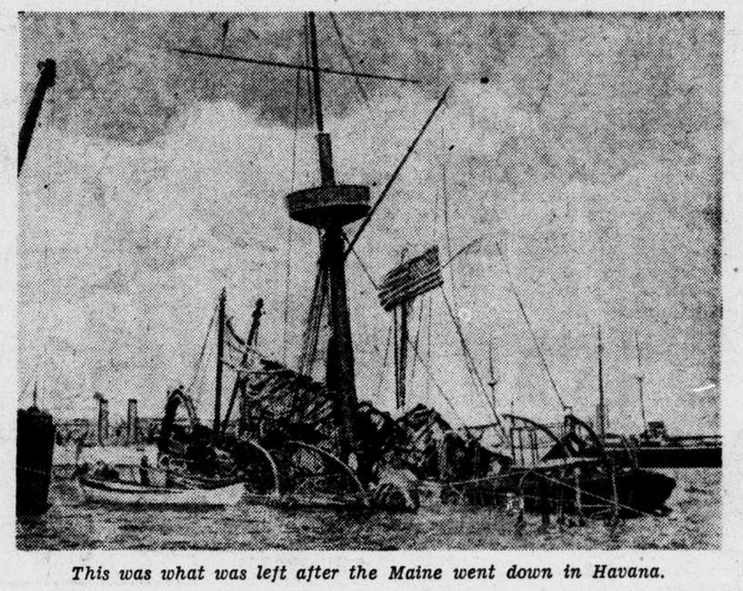
Presented in the form of two resolutions, the charges were (1) that the United States had committed aggression by interposing the 7th Fleet between Formosa and the Chinese mainland, and (2) that it had committed further aggression by making more than 1,000 air sorties over Manchuria. On the first charge, the only affirmative votes were those of the five-member Soviet bloc; with Burma, Indonesia and Yugoslavia abstaining, all the other members were emphatically negative. Similarly, on the second charge, with Afghanistan and Yugoslavia abstaining, the line-up was 51 against the Soviet five.

The Assembly could hardly have voted otherwise. For the action of the 7th Fleet was undertaken, and is still being undertaken, to neutralize the Formosa area, prevent the spread of war in the Pacific and protect the U. N.'s forces in Korea. There could be no more blatant distortion of the truth than to call such an operation "aggression." As for the alleged air raids on Manchuria, the United States long ago admitted that a few might have occurred by mistake in the course of the Korean battle, and it proposed that a special United Nations commission be set up to investigate the matter and determine what indemnities, if any, should be paid. But the proposal was vetoed by the Russians. They preferred instead to make propaganda.

By this time, however, such propaganda has become so obvious and so tiresome that it is hard to understand why the Russians keep on resorting to it. The Assembly has once again made clear that the U. N. is fed up with the thing. One can only hope that the Kremlin eventually will catch on and stop boring the free world with loud-mouthed attempts to prove that reality is the opposite of itself.

This Is a Day to Remember the Maine

By Howard L. Dutkin



This was what was left after the Maine went down in Havana.

WASHINGTON was still a serene, southern-type town on that memorable February 15, fifty-three years ago.

The Star of that date devoted a column to a hearing by the District Commissioners on an application by the Suburban Railway "to afford railway facilities to the northeastern sections of the city and District running out to Bladensburg road . . ."

Hyattsville residents were buzzing over the assault by several men on Charles Sizer followed by the theft of his watch and $8.

In Alexandria, "two young men of prominence, Mr. Dick Harlow and Mr. Morton Quinn" had "engaged in a street fight" over remarks made about a young lady one of the youths was going to escort to a dance.

In the harbor at Havana, the U. S. Battleship Maine rolled quietly at anchor. It was there on what the Government termed "a friendly naval visit" to rebellion-torn Cuba.

The night was heavy and sultry. Twenty-two of the vessel's 26 officers, and all of its 328 crewmen, were aboard.

Some of the officers lounged about the staterooms or messrooms. Others were trading stories in the officers' smoking quarters. Enlisted personnel, except those on watch or on post, had turned in.

In the skipper's cabin, Capt. Charles Dwight Sigsbee paused in his writing of a letter home to listen to the sad-sweet sound of "Taps." It was then, according to Capt. Sigsbee's account, 9:10 p.m.

His pen scratched on in the stillness for another half an hour.

Then, at 9:40 p.m.—"a bursting metallic crashing—a lurching trembling motion!" The lights blinked out. In the blackness, thick billows of smoke enfolded the ship, which listed heavily to port.

Capt. Sigsbee groped his way to the quarterdeck. His first thought was that the vessel was under attack, and he posted sentries. Fire burst out. The flames, lighting the waters, revealed white forms swimming and floating about amid faint cries for help.

Only three of the 15 boats aboard were available for service. These were immediately lowered, and some men were rescued. But the final death toll stood at 260 American lives lost. The resulting uproar in the United States resounded from every hamlet council to the halls of Congress. Spain was to blame!

An American board of inquiry found that the tragedy was caused by explosion of a mine under the ship. A Spanish board declared that this theory was untenable, since a mine could only be set off by collision or electrical discharge. The Spaniards said the calmness of the sea and the state of the wind that night did not allow any motion—thus ruling out collision. They said no trace of electric cable for electrical discharge could be found.

But Americans were convinced by the nature of the blasts and the type of damage done that the explosion was set off by external means, and was not the result of a magazine explosion aboard the Maine, as the Spaniards suggested.

Throughout the Nation, demands for vengeance were sparked by a suddenly popular song:

"Spain, Spain, Spain—you ought to be ashamed—
"Spain, Spain, Spain—for blowing up the Maine. . . ."

On April 20, President McKinley approved a resolution demanding that Spain withdraw from Cuba. Two days later he declared a blockade of Cuban ports. On April 24 Spain declared war on the United States, and the following day the United States declared that war had existed since April 21.

At that time the Army numbered 27,822 regulars and 114,602 in the militia. But three months after the outbreak of war, Spain, stunned by a series of smashing defeats, mainly on the seas, sued for peace.

Cuba was given her freedom from Spanish domination. And the United States, taking over the Philippines, was embarked on a voyage into dangerous Oriental waters.

Letters to The Star

Pen-names may be used if letters carry writers' correct names and addresses. All letters are subject to condensation.

What Kind of Equality?

Certain people and groups contend that separation of the races in our community life, either voluntarily or by law, is in effect a form of discrimination. They make much of the word "equality" and denounce as un-democratic and un-Christian those who do not, in all good conscience, see eye to eye with them. The Constitution and the Bible are brought in to bolster their point of view.

Those who take this stand seem to overlook the fact that the Constitution is an instrument of law. And the term "equality," as set forth in the Constitution pertains to matters of the law. It is no exaggeration to say that the Federal Constitution, as written by the framers, embodied only a limited form of political equality. This was one of the concessions made to that "opulent minority," mostly from the South, who had to be persuaded that their interests would not be jeopardized if they entered into a Federal Union of States.

No one, I suppose, has the right to be dogmatic about the Bible. All agree that it offers spiritual equality. There is nothing much in the Bible, though, on the subject of social or worldly equality. It doesn't preach the breakdown of class structures in a worldly sense. To do so would have been to put emphasis on an inconsequential aspect of life.

Reader.

Mr. Strong and Korea

Gordon Strong's article "Looking West From Sugar Loaf" would make a good plea for our keeping out of Korea if it were not for the fact that the whole article is based on a false premise.

We are not fighting in Korea as a nation but as one of a number of nations, under the orders and direction of the United Nations. It is true that their orders have made it almost impossible to fight a winning war. But had the United Nations refused to take any action when one nation deliberately violated the principles of that organization, it would have spelled the end of the United Nations.

Also the fact seems to have been overlooked that Korea is just another incident in Russia's plan to dominate the world. And had Korea gone according to plan, it would not have been too long before the same condition would have developed in the Philippine Islands. We are certainly morally obligated to protect them.

E. D. McCain.

Frederick, Md.

* *

We can stay on the continent of Asia for a hundred years. We can kill 100 million Asiatics. We can lose a million American lives and expend dollars by the billion till we bleed ourselves white. And yet, when we finally decide to withdraw, little Korea will still be unable to defend itself from its colossal neighbors.

There are some things the United States, with all its power, has not the capacity to do, and one is to change the shape of geography and the course of history on the oldest, largest, most populous and most distressed of the continents. "Asia shall be free" is a fine thing for Gen. MacArthur to say, but an impossible task for the American people to perform.

Fortunately, however, the Soviet Union can no more enslave the billion people of Asia than we can free them from their own long-term afflictions.

It was only five years ago that we freed Korea. We freed the peninsula, incidentally, from the best government its people had ever known—the "tyranny and oppression" of Japan. What has since happened ought to be a lesson for us, but about the East we are persistently unwilling to learn.

We are not defending ourselves in the Orient. No nation there, including Russia, can assail our proper shores from across the Pacific. We are doing now what we were doing when we first crossed the Pacific, a hundred years ago, and "opened" the "hermit kingdoms" of Japan and Korea. We are crusading.

Frederick Moore.

* *

I would like to ask: When is aggression not aggression? Perhaps when it is committed by a nation that objects to world law and order, because that desirable condition renders the propagation of its tyrannical doctrine of politics and economy precarious? Or is it when military necessity requires a lawfully constituted international force (even though, necessarily, composed mainly of United States forces) to cross a boundary in order to put down aggression that is clearly recognized and acknowledged to pose the gravest possible threat to the liberties of free men and, consequently, also to world-wide peace?

I believe that those Americans who lie under the white crosses in Korea did not die in vain. Dying as they did to preserve world law and order, they have already rendered more secure the precious freedoms guaranteed to Americans by our Constitution, to Britons by their constitution, to Turks by theirs—and so on down to those nations which were not able to send even token forces, but which are backing us with full moral support.

If large numbers of people have to be killed in order to secure freedom, it is a price that Koreans and many other peoples will gladly pay to safeguard that most precious of all God-given gifts—the right, and duty, to stand upright and proclaim to the world, "I am a free man and will remain so as long as I draw breath."

D. E. Carleton.

* *

Mr. Strong asks: "What has Korea gotten from us?" He points out the terrible destruction that has been wrought in Korea, and he implies that the Koreans have, therefore, no reason to be grateful to us. Let the Koreans be the judges of this themselves.

Didn't almost every ablebodied Korean, who had the opportunity to do so, flee to sanctuary back of the U. N. lines? Didn't every citizen of Hungnam who could find a spot on which to stand in the U. N. evacuating vessels escape from the resurging Communists? Aren't the very refugees who are suffering terrible deprivations in South Korea writing letters to their friends in this country telling them how grateful they are that the U. N. troops are there to protect them? Isn't the Republic of Korea Army fighting bravely and loyally to keep the Communist troops from seizing their beloved country? Aren't a half million South Korean youths training night and day for military duty, and begging the United States for rifles so that they may go to the front?

Yes, "we have done this to them." Our American sons and the sons of our Allies have nobly stood by these oppressed people, and we can be very sure that the Koreans aren't worried because the U. N. has taken a forceful hand on the mainland of Asia.

Charlotte Richmond,
Korean Pacific Press.

Yo-Yo on A See-Saw

We get the U. N. to declare Communist China an aggressor, yet we hesitate to bomb Manchurian supply bases or blockade the China coast. We support and protect Britain in the last war; now the British barely support us. We appoint an Ambassador to Spain, then leave Spain out of the defense of Western Europe. We support France, and one-third of the French Assembly is Communist. We are supposed to pay higher taxes to help give a gift of hundreds of thousands of tons of grain to India, but India will not even call the Red Chinese aggressors.

Our foreign policy could be compared to a man spinning a yo-yo from a see-saw.

Michael R. Thomas.

Sad and Silly

One of the saddest things about McCarthyism is, I believe, the ridiculous things the fear of it can make ordinarily sensible people do. I am thinking particularly of School Superintendent Corning's use of the raw file of the House Un-American Activities Committee (which he has now said he will modify).

There is a moral for Dr. Corning, too in the whole sad and silly business—and it is that when it came to a showdown, the School Board member (a man named Adelbert Lee) whom Dr. Corning apparently wanted to please by this action gave him no support at all.

Observer.

This and That . . .

By Charles E. Tracewell

Home book shelves are never well managed.

Readers are seldom librarians.

Shelves get filled up with junk.

"I need more shelves," the owner says.

What he needs is not more shelves but fewer books. What he must do is a little weeding.

There comes a time in the life of many a volume when it needs to be retired from active service. Perhaps it had no business on the shelf in the first place.

It is curious how those who love books manage to collect many which they never needed. This comes about, in part, because every book is a book, and so in a way possesses the charm which every well made volume exerts on those who love them.

It will be found that in proportion to one's real love of books is one's reception of them. The true booklover will harbor some books for reasons which he might find difficult to explain.

Even in the best managed small libraries, where professional exigencies tend to overpower the individual bookman, many a volume or set of books will creep in that never had any real place in the collection. Especially will this happen at the beginning of such an institution, whether it be in the home or in some professional or business establishment.

Even the booklover is not above wanting to make a show. When this is coupled, as it often is, with a genuine fondness for books, it is no wonder that all shelves contain specimens whose welcome is long overdue, or whose purpose has been served. These are in addition to the volumes which never should have been there in the first place.

Most of the latter reached their sheltered nook because there were empty spaces to be filled up when the shelves were first set up. Every one who has made a collection of any sort knows how it is. Those who have postage stamp albums want to "fill 'em up," just as tropical fish enthusiasts constantly desire more aquariums with more fishes in them.

* *

The book lover, no more than the gardener, is free from the vogue for numbers. A yawning space on the shelves cries to be filled. One is grateful at first for almost anything that will fill the void.

The easy solution of leaning several books one way, propped at the end by a few in a pile, as a sort of bookend, does not occur to the home librarian at this stage of his progress. He wants those shelves filled, and fill them he will, if he can find the material wherewith to do so.

In most instances this is comparatively easy. Through one expedient or another he manages to gather together enough volumes to place side by side down the entire rows of all his shelves.

Many of them are not exactly what he would like, he tells himself, but it will be easy to remedy that, as more acceptable and appropriate works are secured. It is here that he makes his big mistake, if any one wants to call it so. After all, it is no mistake if the owner will profit by it.

The chances are, however, that time will tend to give unwanted volumes a sanction which often enough they do not deserve. The booklover can go into any library and pick at random many books which have no real place in it.

Yet if he suggested as much to the owner, the latter would manage to discover at least half a dozen reasons why he did not agree with the ouster judgment. Boiled down, they would amount to nothing more than this, that the volumes were there, and looked well, and were going to stay there.

All well and good, but then there is no use to complain about lack of shelf room. It is not shelf room, but weeding out that is needed in most instances. Housewives used to call such a drastic procedure a "ridding out" or "redding out," as the Scotch say.

It is nowhere needed more than on a bookshelf. For books do grow old, they have their time and pass out of existence as living things. Some of them do not, true. Such are called masterpieces and classics. They are timeless. They have immortality.

In addition, every booklover has classics of his own which he treasures because of certain profound and moving appeals to himself alone.

These are his books which do not grow old, which deserve the places they occupy.

The Political Mill

Celler Redistricting Bill Faces Bitter House Fight

Reform Would Put States On Notice in Elections

By Gould Lincoln

The Truman administration, with the aid of Chairman Celler of the House Judiciary Committee, is seeking to put a burr under the tails of the State legislatures which fail to eliminate what Mr. Celler refers to as "rotten borough" congressional districts, before the 1952 elections. A bill prepared by Mr. Celler calls on the States to "redistrict" in such a way that their respective districts will have approximately the same numbers of inhabitants and the territory contained within a district will be "compact" and "contiguous." The bludgeon in the bill is a flat declaration that any State which fails to carry through this reform will have its elected members of the House refused admission to that body.

Decidedly, the fur will begin to fly if and when such a bill is brought before the House. Right off the bat is a violent dislike on the part of many members of Congress to having the Federal Government dictate to the States in the matter of elections. Next to that is the certainty that the political powers back home, content with present congressional districting and unwilling to have them disturbed for reasons of their own, will throw their influence against such legislation.

Truman Backs Reform.

President Truman himself is said to be burned up about inequalities in population in the congressional districts, and the fanciful way in which some States have been districted to give either Republican or Democratic advantage when it comes to electing Representatives. This is called "gerrymandering," and has been practiced by both parties. But particularly is this kind of thing objectionable because it gives rural sections of the country, which are inclined to be more conservative and Republican, an advantage over densely populated areas where Mr. Truman expects support for his Fair Deal program.

The President and Mr. Celler are hammering away at the need for reform, calling attention to the fact that in six States the variation in population between the largest and smallest districts exceeds 400,000 people. A glaring example is found in Ohio, where the population of the 22d District under the 1950 Census is given as 908,403, and of the 2d District as 158,147. The first is represented in the House by Mrs. Frances P. Bolton, Republican, and the second by William E. Hess, also a Republican. The contention is made that a citizen of the 2d District has several times as much representation in the House as has a citizen of the 22d District.

The Celler bill, on which hearings are expected to start in about 10 days, is timed to meet the new census, the population figures on which the membership of the House is now to be reapportioned. If the membership of the House is to remain the same—and it is expected to do so—seven States will gain and nine States will lose in representation. The States which will make gain are California, 7; Florida, 2; Maryland, Michigan, Texas, Virginia and Washington, 1 each. The losers are Pennsylvania, 3; New York, Missouri and Oklahoma, 2 each, and Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee, 1 each.

Could Increase Membership.

The total membership of the House could be so increased as to prevent the loss of seats to any State—but to do so the membership would have to be raised from 435, where it has rested since 1911, to 509. Members know that every time the membership of the House is increased the influence and power of the individual member is lessened. They see, for example, what has happened to the House of Commons in Britain and the Chamber of Deputies in France. The House of Commons has 640 members and the Chamber of Deputies more than 700. The run-of-the-mine member of these bodies is scarcely ever seen or heard.

Mr. Celler, a New York Democrat, insists that he is not actuated by partisan reasons in pressing for the proposed reforms in redistricting the States; that, in fact, his bill should be considered from a non-partisan standpoint and is intended only to improve republican form of Government. He knows he has a hard battle ahead of him. He believes, however, that if a strong public sentiment can be aroused, Congress can be prevailed on to take this action. This is the first time, as he admits, that it has ever been proposed that Congress crack the whip over the States in this matter. He is not only confident that Congress has the constitutional power to do this, but he says he believes that Congress can constitutionally redistrict the States itself, if the States fail to do so in a manner prescribed by Congress. States where the inequalities are greatest in congressional districts, he insists, include those in which no redistricting has been carried out for a long time. Ohio, for example, has not redistricted since 1913, and neither has Oklahoma.

Questions and Answers

The Star's readers can get the answer to any question of fact by either writing The Evening Star Information Bureau, 1200 I street N.W., Washington 5, D. C., and inclosing 3 cents return postage or by telephoning ST. 7363.

By THE HASKIN SERVICE.

Q. How many varieties of octopus are there?—A. A.

A. There are as many as 140 species, varying in size from relatively small ones to the giant Architeuthis, which lives in the deeps of the Atlantic Ocean. From examination of portions of tentacles that have been recovered, this great "devil fish" is believed to have a body more than 10 feet long and tentacles reaching to 50 feet in length.

Q. During what period were quills used for writing?—V. E.

A. The earliest period at which this use of quill feathers is reported is the sixth century. They were used until the introduction of steel pens, early in the 19th century.

Q. How many times is Nazareth mentioned in the Old Testament?—F. P.

A. This place name does not appear in the Old Testament and none of the ancient historians mentions it.

Refraction

Viewed through the slanting prism of vanished years,
Which soon deflects the once-malignant rays
Of black defeats, blue hopes and ashen fears,
The checkered past becomes "the good old days" . . .

Harold Willard Gleason

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Presidential Pettiness

If it be true that the small things a man does are apt to reveal his true stature, there is not much comfort for anyone in the President's latest tilt with Senator Byrd.

As President of the United States, Mr. Truman occupies what is certainly one of the most important offices in the world. It is not an exaggeration to say that the decisions he makes can and probably will have the most profound effect on the future of our civilization. What is one to think, then, when the President stoops to a level of petty politics that would be unworthy of a county political boss?

After a two-year feud with Southern Democrats, Mr. Truman last week sent to the Senate a long list of postmasterships. Included were eight that had been recommended by Representative Burr Harrison of Virginia. But a ninth Harrison recommendation—that for Berryville—was held up.

Berryville, of course, is Senator Byrd's home town, and the withholding of that nomination was a slap at him. Actually, Senator Byrd did not make the selection. Ordinarily Representatives make the recommendations for postmasters, but as a matter of courtesy they defer to the wishes of a Senator where his home town is concerned. In this instance Senator Byrd made no recommendation of his own, merely concurring in Mr. Harrison's preference. So the rebuff intended for the Senator falls somewhat wide of the mark.

An injury, however, has been done, although not to Senator Byrd. If Mr. Truman thinks he can undermine the Senator in Virginia by such small-minded tactics as this, he had better think again. But the postmaster in question, one H. B. Harris, will have to continue on an acting basis, which means that he cannot earn retirement credit despite the fact that his service has been wholly satisfactory. So Mr. Harris, because he serves in Senator Byrd's home town, will suffer to some extent.

The real victim, however, will be the office of President of the United States. It is hard to think of anything more damaging to the prestige of the presidency, or more likely to impair confidence in the stature of the man who holds the office, than such petty, picayunish politicking as this.

The Railroad Indictment

The criminal proceedings brought against the Pennsylvania Railroad by Middlesex County, New Jersey, authorities are as novel as they are drastic. Federal officials concerned with railroad safety can recall no previous case in which a railroad was indicted for manslaughter as the outgrowth of a wreck. The indictments—one for each of the 84 men and women who died when The Broker, a commuters' train, left the rails near Woodbridge, New Jersey, on February 6—were handed down before the State had completed its inquiry and before the Interstate Commerce Commission had prepared its report on the accident.

The Middlesex grand jury charged that the Pennsylvania Railroad, "with force and arms" did "feloniously kill and slay" the 84 victims. The indictments contained no specifications and the prosecutor, Assistant County Attorney Alexander Eber, refused to explain the extraordinary action, except to say that "the important thing is to fix responsibility." Presumably the grand jury, in making the grave charges, had evidence which has not yet been revealed in public hearings. The public will have to await the trial to learn the nature of this evidence. The most serious criticism of the railroad made at the hearings, however, had to do with the absence of a caution light at the approaches to the temporary trestle where the wreck occurred. Although the engineer testified he was looking for such a light, the company contended that no light was required by its operating rules or by standard operating practice of railroads in general.

Conviction of the company would mean more than possible fines totaling $84,000. It would smooth the way for a plethora of civil suits which could run into an enormous aggregate sum—suits not only on behalf of the dead but by the several hundred passengers who were injured. Findings of State and Federal investigators of the wreck will have a bearing, too, on the litigation. All of this will be interesting to watch. However, as the prosecutor suggests, the most important thing is to establish as objectively as possible the cause of the catastrophe, so that the public may be protected against a repetition of the failures—corporate, human or mechanical.

Andre Gide

Andre Gide, dead at 81, will be a subject of debate for many years to come. He never understood himself, so it is no great wonder that he was not comprehended by other persons. Wealth gave him the power to be "a ferocious individualist"; a family background of stern religiosity prompted him into numerous altruistic experiments, some of which—like his sponsorship of the Nouvelle Revue Francaise—really were worth the effort. No literary man of his time was more restless. He wandered all over Europe and much of Africa, and he noticed the smallest details and commented upon them tirelessly. Perhaps his tremendous interest in the whole gamut of creation is the major clue to the mystery of his nature.

Had he been able to conform to a common mold, he probably would have written nothing, thought nothing, felt nothing, been nothing. Gide's claim upon the future lies in his vitality as well as in his curiosity. He was in effect a master journalist, not a reporter but an impressionistic commentator on the whole pageant of life. His journals are mirrors, yet they do more than reflect—they ask questions, they query the Infinite, they lift up to the Source of all being the eternal Why? of striving, struggling millions who themselves are not articulate. For this service the Nobel Prize of 1947 was awarded him.

Gide's own quest is over, but that of the army of his readers goes on into the tomorrows. What sort of world are we to have in another half century? What kind of men and women and children will inhabit this planet in 2001? What philosophy will sustain us adequately? What passion of the soul is there available to our use to carry us through? What new humane doctrine really will govern the nations? What reward for our present suffering will there be, if any reward we deserve?

Good Faith and the Soviet Record

Although the Kremlin may respond affirmatively to the latest Anglo-French-American notes proposing a Paris meeting next month to prepare for a full-dress conference of the Big Four, there is little or no reason to be optimistic about what such a conference is likely to accomplish when and if it is held. That is so not simply because of Generalissimo Stalin's recent blast against the West. More important as a measure of what to expect is the long and dreary record of Moscow's postwar aggression and double-dealing.

It is because of that record that the State Department, in connection with the proposal for preliminary Paris talks, has made a special point of declaring that it doubts Soviet good faith in the matter. That is why it has been openly skeptical ever since the Kremlin, on last November 3, first called upon the three Western Powers for a new Big Four meeting to deal with the problem of German rearmament. And that is why it still remains skeptical even though the Russians seem to have accepted the Anglo-French-American demand that the projected conference, if it is to take place at all, must deal not merely with Germany but with other major issues responsible for the grave tensions now spreading fear through the world.

The issues stem from the fact that the Soviet Union has done such things as the following since V-E day and V-J day: (1) Violated the Yalta agreement by denying to Poland and other East European countries the right to elect democratic governments of their own choosing, imposing upon them instead the tyranny of puppet Communist rule; (2) mocked its Potsdam pledges by blocking Germany's economic and political unification and by creating a German army in its occupation zone; (3) inspired and helped the Greek Reds in their effort to seize Greece; (4) subverted Czechoslovakia; (5) blockaded Berlin in an attempt to drive out the Western Allies; (6) did its best to sabotage the Marshall Plan; (7) displayed flagrant insincerity in stimying a peace settlement for Austria; (8) torpedoed every effort by the overwhelming majority of the United Nations to establish effective atomic control; (9) maintained huge armed forces (still in being) while the West drastically demobilized; (10) resorted to a policy of mounting threats and pressures against Yugoslavia—a policy involving a marked, treaty-violating build-up of neighboring satellite armies; (11) persistently supported the aggression in Korea; and (12) made tighter than ever the Iron Curtain, behind which, in an atmosphere of oppression and blacked-out truth, it continues to arm and conduct a systematic campaign of hate and subversion against the free world.

All this represents only part of the Soviet postwar record. It is the thing that has driven the free nations—as a matter of self-preservation—to try to build up their defenses as fast and as thoroughly as possible. It is the thing that has given rise to the explosive tensions that are forcing the world to hold its breath today. It is the thing—the only thing—that makes the threat of a new global war seem dangerously real. Were the story different—were it one of co-operation, compromise, give-and-take, moderation, honest negotiation, fidelity to treaties—then mankind right now would have little to fear. For in that case peoples and governments—working together in the open instead of being cut off from each other by the fear-breeding Iron Curtain—would be well on their way toward establishing a good and decent peace.

Can a new Big Four Conference brighten the prospect? Unfortunately, in view of the Soviet record to date, the State Department seems amply justified in its rather pessimistic skepticism. This is no time for self-delusion. Another full-dress meeting with the Russians will achieve nothing of enduring value unless they attend it in good faith, undertake to effect a basic change in their policy and show by concrete deeds that they want peace.

Gray's 'Elegy'

England just now is celebrating the bicentennial of Thomas Gray's famous "Elegy Written in a Country Church Yard." The poem was published by Robert Dodsley in quarto in February, 1751, and it was "greatly successful from the very first." Composed by "the slowest of bards," it represented seven years of consideration on his part. He was 35 when it finally was issued and had only two decades of life before him—and nothing much worth doing with the time. Richard Garnett and Edmund Gosse, in their "History of English Literature," refer to him as being "altogether too delicate for the rough age he lived in." It served him to little effect that he was "perhaps the most learned man in Europe." Loneliness and gout afflicted him. He was constitutionally too fat, too shy and too weak of body and spirit. Yet he could and did write lines as simple, as graceful and as richly beautiful as:

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea,
The plowman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

Nothing more compelling of its kind exists in English letters than the whole picture painted in the Elegy. Each single word of it obviously has been chosen with meticulous discrimination. The poem is a tour de force of taste. If proof of its power be wanted, it may be found in this stanza, often quoted even now after two centuries:

Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear:
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

Gray's mood throughout is melancholic. He faces the universe as a philosopher and as an artist, too; but he is sad and sorrowful—there is no exuberant joy in his work. The youth "to fortune and to fame unknown" is himself, and he mourns his frustrations, his disappointments, his pathetic griefs. At the last of the lament he affirms that heaven has granted him the friend who was "all he wished," but the elegist's history contradicts the claim. His immortal poem stands today as an appeal for a type of human fellowship—an authentic mutuality—which rarely, if ever, develops anywhere on earth. It is a cry for mercy which many great souls have helped to raise, all too often in vain.

The Infantry Needs College Boys, Too

To the Editor of The Star:

CONGRATULATIONS to Senator L. B. Johnson of Texas and his assistants for their recommendations that "all branches of the service receive men from a common selective service pool."

Only recently it was announced officially that college men may volunteer for any service, rather than be required to take their chance in the draft. This amazing action was taken to prevent what one newspaper called "a stampede of enlistments by college students in the Navy and Air Force." The threatened stampede obviously stemmed from a desire to avoid front-line combat duty with the Army—or, as the Johnson subcommittee reported, simply to "stay out of the Infantry."

To put it bluntly, this concession to college men authorizes them to pick the safest billets available. Such exceptions to equality of treatment give very apparent approval to the proposition that the wealthy (who can all send their boys to college) are entitled to special consideration. Furthermore, these exceptions introduce into our armed forces a selfish spirit of "every-man-for-himself." They encourage young men to avoid hazardous duty and to believe that some folks are better than others. It is hard to realize that our vaunted equality could be so prostituted.

Of course, the officer corps of all services must always be composed of volunteers. But otherwise young men who are drafted should be equally subject to military duty, and equally open to assignment in any one of the various services. Within the Army, they should always be available for combat duty with a combat unit.

The type of American boy (and I mean boy) doing our fighting in Korea will become apparent to anyone taking time to read newspaper stories about the dead and wounded. The enlisted men almost invariably are very young, relatively immature, not-too-well educated. They are almost entirely from the lower middle and working classes. While these men are largely volunteers, they will soon be replaced by draftees of similar types.

Is this Nation going to continue to form its fighting forces of these youngsters, who are either too naive to request safer assignments, too proud to ask for such favors, or too poor and inconsequential to be permitted special treatment? Are we going to encourage a special brand of draft-dodger—the man who rushes into a uniform which carries the least chance of danger and privation?

AP Photo.
SENATOR JOHNSON.

Compare the risks and standards of living in the various Services, and then ask yourself what duty anyone would choose who had the privilege of choosing. Nor will this situation be corrected by authorizing hazardous duty pay for front line infantrymen. It may be that the hazards of flying can be priced out in dollars and cents, but the dangers of infantrymen in combat simply cannot be made attractive.

It is the infantrymen (and ground Marines) who stay on and on in combat, with little relief, rotation, or reward. They absorb an overwhelming share of the casualties—and gain, lose, or hold the ground which determines defeat or victory. With the other ground forces, they face the Bataans, the Dunkirks—and the Koreas—of tomorrow.

The duty of fighting far from home, in causes that do not necessarily breed natural enthusiasm, is certainly not attractive to any normal American. Even professional infantrymen seldom ask for front line assignments, as ready as they are to perform such duty if it falls to their lot. Such a spirit should exist in every young American.

Unpopular duty with the ground forces should therefore be distributed among all Americans alike by a fair and honest system, without favor or distinction of any kind. This would permit a decided improvement in the caliber of our front-line fighters. It would allow a reasonable rotation of infantrymen on dangerous duty, and fairly distribute among all classes of qualified Americans the greatest hardships and risks connected with our national foreign policies.

And yet, today, these infantrymen see manifest favoritism being extended to the "educated" classes, who more than any other group of Americans need to develop the self-control and the self-respect necessary for them to see their duty and to do it. We already have too many intellectuals, long on brains and short on character.

The infantry and the common people who compose it deserve the adoption of a system of Universal Military Service which will place the infantry on an equal basis with all other military assignments and make all drafted young men equally susceptible to front-line duty under a fair system of rotation. These ends can be attained only if assignments are determined by lot rather than by choice or favoritism.

The infantry will never achieve its maximum efficiency until its enlisted men are a true cross-section of Americans, gladly and willingly giving their all because they know that combat duty has been fairly assigned to them as a part of a system of unquestioned integrity, with equal consideration for every mother's son, regardless of race, religion, influence, education or intelligence tests.

Our men in Korea are fighting for the Nation. Who will fight for them at home? Senator Johnson has pointed out a way.

Ex-Doughboy

Letters to The Star

Pen-names may be used if letters carry writers' correct names and addresses. All letters are subject to condensation.

Street Scene

I saw this at the corner of Third street and Pennsylvania avenue N.W., February 11, at approximately 6:30 p.m.:

As I was making a right-hand turn from Pennsylvania avenue into Third street, a big, black, curley-haired dog was lying in the second lane on Pennsylvania avenue. A little boy stood on the curb, crying hysterically. His bicycle was lying on the curb on Third street. When I asked him what the trouble was, he walked over, picked up the bike and between sobs said, "They killed my dog and left him in the street." There was no place to park, but I stood there trying to console him. All I could learn from him was that a bus had struck his dog. He could not identify the bus; however, he said it was not a Capital Transit bus. A lady pedestrian also stopped to help him.

I made a report at the police station, then attempted to go back to the scene of the accident but made the wrong turn. At 8 o'clock I drove back there to see if the dog had been moved. He was still there, and a lone woman was watching from the curb.

There were many passers-by around 6:30, and even though the person who was guilty of this crime refused to stop, what of the rest? Are we all too busy to go to the rescue of a broken-hearted child crying alone in the street?

Nancy M. Wilkins.

The First Washington

I think the people of Washington might be interested in the following letter. It was written from New York by Eric Underwood, a Britisher, and appeared recently in The Times of London:

"I have just read Sir Evelyn Wrench's letter in The Times recently suggesting that one of the Magna Carta manuscripts should be presented to the United States as a token of gratitude of the people of England. May I say, however, that there is reason to believe that there is a possible gift which England could make which would be even more acceptable to every man, woman, boy and girl in the United States.

"Very few people on either side of the Atlantic are aware that a few miles from Durham we possess an ancient relic whose appeal to all Americans is unsurpassed anywhere; this is the site and a part of the house built by the first man in the world to bear the name of Washington.

"Before the days of surnames one 'William', in the year 1183, purchased the manor of Washington and there built his house and took the name 'de Washington.' This was owned by his descendants and related families till 1613. In 1376 it changed ownership and the deed of sale of that date, bearing a leaden seal, on which are impressed both stars and stripes, is still extant. These arms, with an eagle for crest, had been granted to the Washingtons some time before.

"The house was occupied till 1934, when it was condemned as unfit for human habitation. It was bought by a local group, but for want of funds has remained a ruin. Recent investigations show that parts of the house of 1183 still remain; and the researches of Mr. Lee Washington have proved the descent of the first President from William de Washington.

"I suggest that the house should be restored by the people of England and equipped as a museum and presented to the City of Washington, D. C., which has just celebrated its 150th anniversary. This could be done for about £25,000. There is precedent for the ownership in England by Americans of something which does not leave the country in Harvard House, Stratford-on-Avon."

M. L. G.

Rowdies, or Soldiers?

I was heartened to read in The Star the article entitled "Eisenhower Troops Offend French With Drunken Rowdyism."

Mr. Shapiro deserves to be commended for bringing this matter out in the open. I have witnessed this sort of behavior on the part of certain elements in our armed forces, not only abroad but in New York and right here in Washington. The unfortunate truth is that our troops do not compare favorably with the French or British in discipline or in decent behavior toward civilians.

In the British forces, an officer is considered to have responsibility and authority wherever it becomes necessary to use it. American officers seem to lack it or are afraid to exercise it when off their own posts or away from their own outfits. In the spring of 1945 I saw a seaman insult a lone woman in the coffee shop of one of our better Washington hotels, while at first two and later three naval officers sat at various other tables, not courageous enough to do anything about it.

The seaman was just drunk enough to be nasty. Being drunk seems, in our services, to excuse any behavior while not on actual duty. In the services of at least one foreign country, drunken culprits are punished for their offenses, including the one of being drunk.

Are we to see our best efforts at home and abroad sabotaged by such episodes as Mr. Shapiro has described, or are the armed forces going to enforce decency upon those not naturally gifted with that quality? That is the question.

Clarkson J. Beall.

* *

We have been advised that every traveler in foreign countries is an unofficial ambassador of his own country, which will be judged by his actions. Drunkards are not good soldiers, nor good citizens. I, for one, do not wish to be represented by such persons.

Frances L. McDowell.

Unconvinced

Dr. Urner Liddel states that flying saucers are only huge balloons used in cosmic studies. Dr. Liddel says there is no longer any need to keep the public in the dark; he considers his answer "incontrovertibly right." Undoubtedly cosmic ray balloons have accounted for a fair number of "saucer sightings," but they do not explain all the aerial phenomena.

I am extremely amazed at the professional myopia manifest in the various, contradictory "explanations." The nuclear scientist or physicist tells us they are balloons; the astronomer tells us they are meteors; the science-fiction fans tell us they are little men from Mars, and so on. But what were the vast number of brownish objects, with tails, seen over Skeinge, Sweden, May 16, 1808, in a two-hour-long procession, and reported in The Transactions of The Swedish Academy of Sciences, 1808–215?

They were observed by astonished thousands in the streets. The sun became brick red in color. Occasionally one of the objects fell to earth, and on examination of the place of fall, a slight film was seen, which soon vanished.

And what was the 6-foot sphere, emitting a purplish glow, which fell onto a Philadelphia field last September 27, and which, when touched by a policeman, dissolved into a sticky film? The grass upon which it fell was not even bent by its weight.

And why did the official Air Force report of April 27, 1949, state that the "saucers" acted more like "animals" than anything else?

John Philip Bessor.

St. Thomas, Pa.

Stokes Critic

In his early days when he was a young columnist fighting and exposing graft and corruption from Georgia to California, I was an ardent admirer of Thomas L. Stokes and his writing. But he now seems to be a "tired liberal" with no place to go.

With so much evidence of dishonesty and disloyalty in high public places, it seems too bad that Mr. Stokes should have chosen to become a New Deal and a Fair Deal apologist. The erstwhile young fighting reporter, who used to make the grafters tremble in their boots, winds up in the same corner with the Pendergast gang!

A. D.

This and That . . .

By Charles E. Tracewell

A book is a friend.

So don't break its back. That is no way to treat a friend.

Breaking the back of a book is an unforgivable sin.

Dog-ear the pages, and any volume will forgive you.

Spill water on the cover and no harm will come to the soul of that book.

But if you break its back, no book is ever the same again.

Back-breaking is done this way:

Grab the book violently by both covers, and forcibly open it with a violent wrench.

There comes a splitting sound, and a gap appears all along the division between the two pages, along the backbone.

* *

Often this backbone appears to sight, gaping hideously at the sturdy book handler.

One break, however, is never enough. If left to his own devices, the book boor invariably will yank the pages open here and there, making breaks as he goes, so that by the time he is done with it the volume is a wreck.

We have gone into detail because it is unfortunately true that the average book boor hasn't the slightest idea in the world that he has done anything wrong.

If you were to reproach him with it, he would call you a crank to your face, or go away and tell a friend that you are the fussiest person he ever knew.

He simply is not used to handling so delicate a thing as a book. He knows how to crank a car, or to kick a football; he is expert at sawing wood and splitting kindling; when it comes to feats of strength he literally shines. He fails to perceive in a book anything more than something else to be mauled around with vigorous fingers and tensed muscles.

* *

While there is more and more an increasing tendency on the part of the book publishers to provide books with reinforcement where it is most needed, thousands of volumes are published without such necessary aid to integrity. Thus many volumes will split the moment they are opened unless they find themselves in the hands of some one who understands how the thing ought to be done.

After a book is printed, assembled, sewn together and put in its covers, with end papers and all, it usually comes to the purchaser in pristine condition.

Probably no one has ever opened its covers. The result is that there is a certain stiffness in the binding and in the pages. If the book is opened carelessly, and especially too vigorously at first, an ugly rip down the backbone is almost sure to result, not on the outside, of course, but on the inside.

* *

Every time thereafter that the book is opened it will fall open involuntarily at the place where the split comes. Thus it makes no difference how old a book is, it carries with it forever the harsh things done to it by the book boor, who did not love books enough to learn how to open them correctly in the first place.

The sad part of it is that there are hundreds of persons who really love books who yet have never informed themselves as to the proper procedure upon first opening a new volume. It is only a little trouble; after that, the book will be much more able to withstand the assaults of manglers.

* *

Every new book should be opened first according to the following formula:

Hold the book on a table, with the long edges of the covers up, one in each hand. Then gently open the front cover and press it down—likewise gently—after which do the same with the back cover. If this is done carefully the stiffness will be taken out gradually and easily.

Now you are ready for the pages. Take the front end paper—the first inside the cover—and press it down easily but firmly, after which press down the back inside end paper in the same manner. Then, alternately front and back, press down the entire number of pages, one after the other, first from the front and then from the back. Thus you will end up about in the middle of the book.

After one has experimented with this method for a time, he will discover that not every book needs such page-by-page devotion.

Some books, stronger in their backs, may be taken two or four pages at a time, first four at the front, then four at the back, and so on, until the entire book has been gone through.

Artificial Heart, Lungs For Humans Probable

Two Types of Such Systems Successful With Animals

By Thomas R. Henry

Artificial hearts and lungs for human beings are probable soon.

Two types of complete heart-lung systems already have proved quite successful with small animals, and the day is near at hand when the first tests with humans will be justified.

This is announced by the American Heart Association as the outstanding research development in its field during the past year.

The mechanical hearts and lungs would be expected to function only a short time and are devised so that the heart, especially, can be completely immobilized during surgery.

"The future cure or treatment of patients with congenital defects or acquired diseases of the heart and blood vessels," says the report, "rests to a large degree on developments in heart surgery, in the opinion of many authorities. Heart operations also gain increasing importance because of war injuries and the lodging of foreign bodies in the heart.

"Many scientists are working to perfect a mechanical heart-lung apparatus to take over the duties of heart and lungs for a brief period to permit the surgeon to operate on an inactive heart. Two such experiments, financed by the American Heart Association, have proved successful when applied to small animals."

Mechanical Heart-Lung.

One of these research projects is being conducted by Drs. Leland C. Clark and Frank Gollan at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Another type of mechanical heart-lung is being developed by Dr. Joseph M. Miller at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles.

There is every reason to expect such successful results, it is indicated, as have been achieved by the recently developed artificial kidney which can perform all the functions of the human kidney for hours at a time, thus substituting for the weakened organ. It has saved many lives in emergencies, and now is being used to study changes in kidney function in normal and diseased conditions.

When heart valves become damaged, usually as a result of rheumatic fever, they do not open and close normally. This interferes with the flow of blood. In an effort to correct such conditions by surgery one research team, the association reports, has been developing plastic heart valves which can be inserted to replace diseased valves. The technique now has been perfected in dogs.

* *

More than half the 3 million square miles of the United States and its territories remains inadequately mapped in terms of modern requirements.

This is revealed by Gerald Fitzgerald, president of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. The deficiency is due largely, he told the Canadian Institute of Surveying and Photogrammetry the other day, to the higher standards which have been set during and since the war. Few of the old maps, entirely adequate in their day, meet these standards.

The job might be inordinately expensive, Mr. Fitzgerald indicated, except for the postwar development of new techniques and instruments.

Mapping by Helicopter.

Perhaps of greatest importance is the helicopter for mapping Alaska and parts of the Western United States. It makes possible the rapid transportation of surveying parties to the tops of mountains and other difficult locations which are exceptionally good station sites. Formerly they could be reached only by days of wearisome foot journeys. In Alaska, Mr. Fitzgerald said, this has speeded the rate of map-making at least 15-fold.

One of the most difficult jobs of the Government map-maker is the fixing of reasonably precise altitudes over large areas. This is being overcome largely by a new development—the so-called "leap-frog method." By this device a series of simultaneous readings of two precision altimeters, one serving as a standard, are made at desired points along a route.

Electronic devices, such as the shoran, which were developed for quite different purposes during the war, have been adapted to surveying. Up to the present they have been confined largely to Alaska.

Many "bugs" must be eliminated, Mr. Fitzgerald said, before the electronic methods can be applied on a wide scale where extreme precision is necessary. Far-reaching developments also are under way, he explained, in the making of maps from air photos. This promises to become easier and considerably more accurate.

Questions and Answers

The Star's readers can get the answer to any question of fact by either writing The Evening Star Information Bureau, 1200 I street N.W., Washington 5, D. C., and inclosing 3 cents return postage or by telephoning ST. 7363.

By THE HASKIN SERVICE.

Q. What was the total amount of money spent on advertising last year?—E. H. B.

A. The estimated total was $5.5 billion divided as follows: Newspapers, $1.8 billion; magazines, $475 million, radio, $625 million; television, $80 million; balance, direct mail, outdoor, etc.

Q. What are the slowest moving animals?—M. T. D.

A. This distinction has been claimed for the sloth, the snail and the burrowing earthworm. A sloth can be incited to move at a pace equivalent to 1 mile an hour. One snail's pace was actually measured and found to be 23 inches an hour.

Q. Why are stadiums called by this name? —E. W.

A. The word comes from the Greek "stadion," a measure of length equal to 606 ft. 9 in. This was the distance of the original Olympian foot race which was named for the measurement. Later, the term was applied to the place where the race was run.

Q. Please list all the words in the English language that end in "sede."—H. G. K.

A. There is only one—supersede.

Lace Makers

The thin bare fingers of the trees
Shuttle swiftly to and fro,
Weaving every icy breeze,
All the wild March winds that blow,
Into green lace, filmy sheer
They will wear when April's here.

Jane H. Merchant.

Truman to Take Fight For Foreign Aid Plan To Nation Thursday

By the Associated Press

President Truman will carry to the country his fight for a 7.9 billion foreign aid program with a Nation-wide radio and television address Thursday night.

He is expected to appeal for public support in what may be a fight with a critical Congress.

At about the same time, Congress is expected to receive the President's program for new overseas military and economic aid, calling for about $7.9 billion in fresh appropriations.

The President will speak over all major radio and television networks between 10:30 and 11 p.m. Thursday, the White House announced.

He is expected to underline Secretary of State Acheson's contention that the foreign aid program "deserves our utmost support."

Mr. Acheson made the statement Friday night in a broadcast describing recent steps to hasten unified defenses for Western Europe.

Some Foresee Battle.

The Secretary's report brought some Congressional predictions that the President faces a battle to get approval for his full program.

Senator O'Mahoney, Democrat, of Wyoming, said: "I believe reductions can be made in the foreign military program." The Senator, who has proposed a $10 billion slash in Government spending, said he favored cutting foreign military funds ahead of economic assistance.

Representative Mansfield, Democrat, of Montana, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and delegate to the Paris United Nations General Assembly session, said the Administration would be "doing well" to get approval for $7 billion in foreign aid.

Last year Congress cut $1.2 billion from the President's request for $8.5 billion in foreign assistance.

Both Democratic and Republican members of the committee expressed what one termed "cautious optimism" over Mr. Acheson's report of Europe's progress toward unification. The secretary briefed the committee Thursday, shortly after his return from Lisbon.

Wants to Know U. S. Share.

But legislators of both parties said they still want to learn how much the United States would have to pay for the defense blueprints drawn up at the Lisbon conference of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Mr. Mansfield told a reporter that in this election year Congress is "thinking of economy" and will scrutinize the foreign aid requests closely.

Chairman Richards told newsmen Mutual Security Director W. Averell Harriman will brief the committee, probably Tuesday, on further details of European developments. Mr. Harriman headed a special NATO committee to survey the economic capacities of member nations.

The committee also may hear Secretary of Defense Lovett and Treasury Secretary Snyder, other members of the American delegation at Lisbon. Mr. Richards said: "We want to be fully informed before we consider the President's requests."

Total Set at $300 Billion.

Mr. Mansfield informed a reporter that committeemen want to question Mr. Lovett particularly on details of the total defense budget for Western Europe. News reports from Lisbon said the delegates had agreed on an over-all figure of $300 billion through 1955, including $75 billion for the first year.

Representative Vorys, Republican of Ohio, told a reporter that Mr. Acheson was queried about the $300 billion figure in the committee meeting Thursday and replied that "he knew nothing about it and had not seen the news reports."

Committeemen said they also were curious about the American share of a $400 million program to build air fields and communications systems in Western Europe.

Administration sources have indicated that about $2.5 billion of the mutual security program would be earmarked for economic aid and the remainder for military assistance. This would be for the fiscal year of 1953, beginning next July 1.

The President said in his budget message that total foreign expenditures during the 1953 fiscal year would be $10.5 billion. This would include technical assistance under the Point Four program.

Mr. Vorys said Mr. Acheson "didn't try to oversell" the steps taken toward European unification in his Friday night address to the Nation. "I have a feeling of cautious optimism," he said, "from the fact that the European ministers took action at Lisbon instead of stalling, even though much remains to be done."

Mr. Mansfield said Mr. Acheson made a "very good speech."

Both legislators said the downfall of Edgar Faure's cabinet in France is a "heavy blow" for European unification. The cabinet fell on a proposed 15 per cent tax increase to implement the defense budget.

Many members of the House committee have suggested gearing American aid to Europe's step-by-step progress toward unification.

Representative Judd, Depublican, of Minnesota, said Mr. Acheson's report "showed we are now insisting that Europe take steps to unite—a proposal some of us tried to write into the law two years ago."

Senate Pledge of Protection To Be Asked for West Germany

By John M. Hightower
Associated Press Staff Writer

The Truman administration will ask the Senate in a few weeks to pledge help to Western Germany in case she is attacked.

The idea is to extend to the West Germans the security guarantees in the North Atlantic Treaty.

The purpose of this action by the United States, and parallel actions by other Atlantic alliance members, will be to give the Germans the security guarantees they have asked as part of their price for rearming.

West German Labor Leading Opposition Against Rearming. Page A-21
Lisbon Conference Was Success; Some Problems Remain. Page C-1

The guarantees would not become effective except on a reciprocal basis—that is, Western Germany would have to promise that it also would consider an attack upon any member of the North Atlantic alliance as an attack upon itself.

Protocol to Treaty.

The device for accomplishing this linking of West Germany with the Atlantic alliance, officials said yesterday, will be a protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty. The protocol will state in effect that the security provisions of the Atlantic alliance are effective also for the members of the European Defense Community (EDC), provided they make the same commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty nations.

This is what Secretary of State Acheson was talking about Friday night in his radio report on the recent conferences he held with Western European and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) leaders at London and Lisbon, when he said "security guarantees" between NATO and EDC "now agreed upon will be presented to legislative bodies." This, he added, will tie West Germany into the whole defense scheme for Western Europe.

French Reluctant.

The roundabout way of accomplishing this has been necessitated by French reluctance to have the Germans rearm at all. The simplest procedure would have been to take West Germany directly into NATO, but the French balked at that and the Americans and British agreed that it was too early to consider such an arrangement.

On the other hand the Germans were not willing to rearm unless they got assurances on two points insofar as NATO is concerned:

First, that they would have a voice in any NATO decision vitally affecting them.

Second, that they would have the same protection as any NATO nation.

Needs Senate Approval.

The essence of the NATO protection is that the United States and other Allies will treat an attack on any one of them as an attack on itself and will assist the nation assaulted.

The NATO nations agreed at Lisbon that the Germans should have the voice and the security guarantees but since this means a substantial change in the Atlantic treaty, State Department officials said yesterday that it would have to have Senate approval before the United States could ratify.

Dr. Urner Liddel Named AEC Physics Branch Chief

By the Associated Press

The Atomic Energy Commission announced yesterday that Dr. Urner Liddel has been named chief of its physics and mathematics branch.

Dr. Liddel, 46, of Butler, Mo., was director of the Naval Research Division of Physical Sciences. He headed the joint Naval-EC program in nuclear physics research.

In his new post he will be responsible for development of physics and mathematics research.

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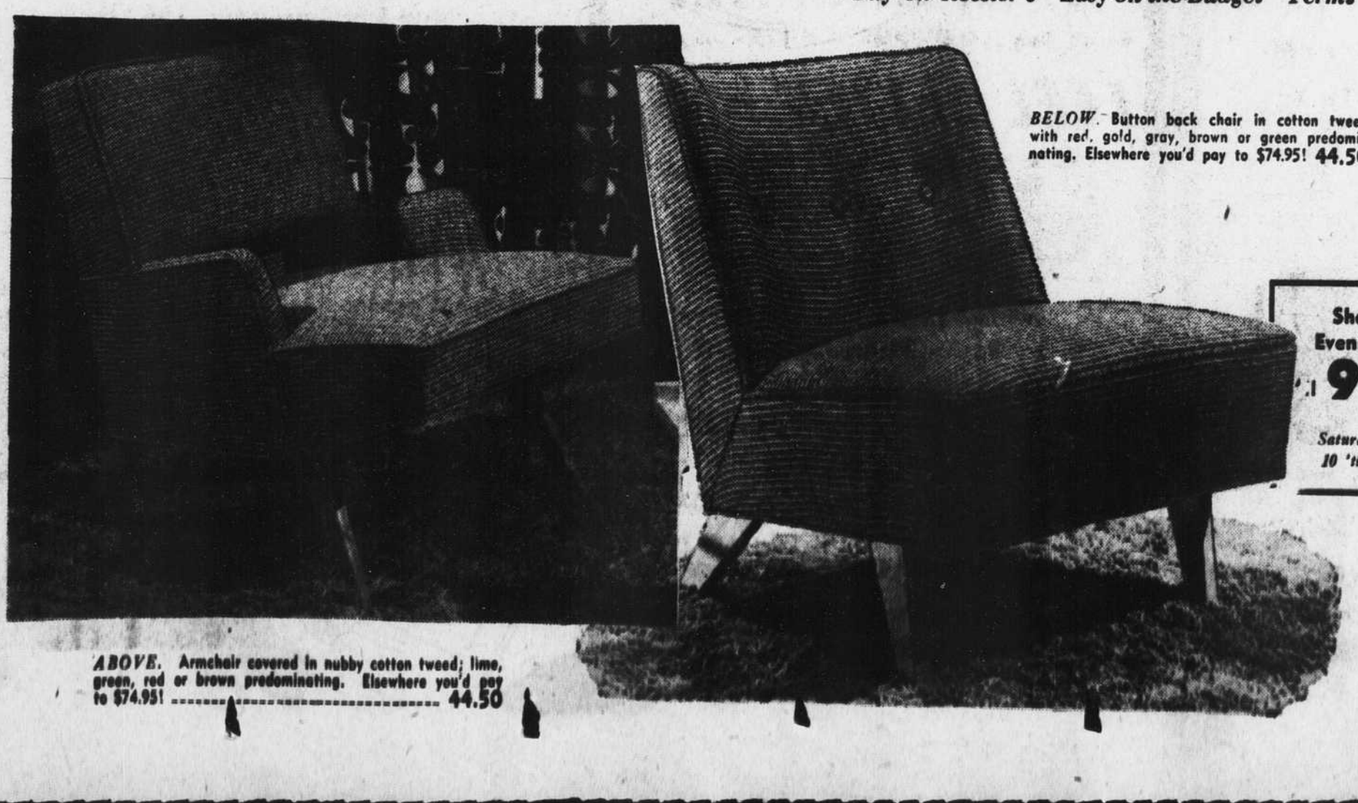
ABOVE. Tufted chair covered in nubby cotton; gray, green, red or chartreuse predominating. Elsewhere you'd pay to 69.95! 44.50



BELOW. Button back chair in cotton tweed with red, gold, gray, brown or green predominating. Elsewhere you'd pay to $74.95! 44.50

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"News of America's Last Frontier"

VOL 10 NO 50 KODIAK, ALASKA FEBRUARY 17, 1951 PRICE 10 CENTS

Riley vs Club Continues; Hirth Guilty Of Larceny

The civil suit of Herbert A. Riley, magician, against the base Civil Service Club, asking for damages allegedly done his professional paraphernalia while it was stored at the club, will enter its second day today in District Court.

Court will be in session at 10 am at the Union Hall with Judge Anthony J. Dimond presiding.

Riley, represented by Talmage L. Smith, is asking for $1825 for the property plus reimbursement for engagements he claims he cannot fulfill without it, as well as court costs and attorney fees. Defendants in the suit, officers and directors of the club, are represented by William Renfrew, Anchorage attorney.

Jurors hearing the suit are Cecil Hartman, Dorothy Clark, Anne Anderson, Dora Corgatelli, Merrill Coon, Marion Lynch, Katherine Anderson, Alice McDonald, George F. Drewes, W. H. Fish, Bill Fitzgerald and Alice Sholl.

Another jury which heard a criminal case Wednesday and Thursday found its defendant, Arthur Hirth. Jr., guilty of larceny in stealing five tires, property of the U. S. government, valued at less than $100, and found Hirth not guilty of a charge of concealing the property for his own use.

Hirth received a sentence of one year from Judge Dimond, to be served in the Kodiak jail.

Jurors were Pete Hjelmeir. John Kifer, Alfred Anderson, Stu Nuckols, John Malutin, Robert Owen, T. C. Robinson, Evelyn Rave, George Kappos, John Mc Laughlin, Ole Olsen, and Frieda Blinn.

Hirth was represented by Smith. J. Earl Cooper, U. S. attorney, pled the government's case.

Monday, the suit of Ben Bolden against Ralph Shupp, asking payment for steel matting allegedly sold Shupp for the street paving job, will probably get underway. A jury will hear the suit, in which Buell Nesbett will represent Bolden and John C. Hughes the defendant.

The final case on the court's calendar here is the appeal of H. F. MacDonald, in the City of Kodiak's suit against him for an unpaid water bill. Earlier, in commissioner's court here, a decision against MacDonald was entered. Smith is representing MacDonald and Buell Nesbett the city. This will also be a jury hearing.

Anderson Sentenced

William Anderson, 25, who confessed several weeks ago to breaking into local stores and stealing women's lingerie, and had been bound over to the grand jury on a charge of breaking and entering the Baptist Mission, waived the jury and pled guilty on three counts in District Court here yesterday.

Anderson pled guilty to breaking into Krafts and Donnelley and Acheson, and of breaking a window at the Baptist Mission rummage sale room. He received suspended three year sentences, to run concurrently, on the first two charges, and a suspended six months sentence on the Mission charge.

The court heard that Anderson had made restitution to Krafts and D and A, and had turned the stolen property over to the Mission to pay for the broken window.

Rent Interviews Continue Today

Dorothy D. Tyner, area rent control representative, will be at room 24, Kodiak Hotel, today.

Dorothy D. Tyner, area rent control representative from Anchorage, arrived in Kodiak Wednesday to confer with landlords and tenants regarding rent increases in the Kodiak area.

Miss Tyner interviewed tenants who had reported rent increases. She pointed out that under certain provisions landlords may be entitled to increases but that such action must be approved and cleared with the rent control office before the rent could be raised. The tenant must be notified by the rent control office before he is obliged to pay higher rents.

Rent control is in effect until March 31, 1951 regardless of whether incorporated cities have voted to throw off or retain controls, Miss Tyner said.

A meeting will be held next Sunday, Feb. 25, at 3 pm at the Community Center, of all persons interested in civil defense, George Sonntag, city civil defense director, said yesterday.

Church Dedication Tomorrow

The formal dedication of the Christian Education Addition of the Community Baptist Church will begin tomorrow at 4 pm.

The public is invited to all of the services.

The Rev. R. N. Wilkinson has chosen as his dedicatory sermon topic What Shall We Bring. The program will begin with an organ prelude and will be followed with a call to worship. The senior and youth choirs will sing and prayers and scripture reading will follow.

At the close of the dedication service, friends are invited to inspect the new building. Church workers will assist in answering questions concerning the use of the rooms. A buffet supper will be served in the church dining room.

The addition to the church is a result of a cooperative project of the local congregation and the American Baptist Home Mission Society of the American (Northern) Baptist Convention.

The building was made possible by gifts from members and friends of the church and interested individuals of Kodiak who have contributed over $10,000 over a period of three years.

A grant of money and a long term loan was made available by the Home Mission Society to bring the total expended to over $50,000, Rev. Wilkinson said.

The Rev. John B. Dahl supervised the construction which began in May, 1950.

Kodiak Crabs Make Washington Debut

Kodiak's king crab industry received publicity in Washington, D. C. this week when the delicious sea food was served at a banquet for the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Lee C. Bettinger shipped 10 fresh frozen crabs by air express to Mrs. Hazel Markel, CBS employee, newspaper woman and fashion authority, who gave the banquet.

Women attending the dinner wore king crab hats, made from the shell and trimmed and gilded, Bettinger said. He wired Leon Johnson, KEA manager, now in the capital, to try to attend the banquet.

Charles Jerling and Charles Anderson reported to Ft. Richardson this week, to be inducted into the army.

Kodiak Bear Issue Is Before Legislature

A telegram protesting the Chamber of Commerce and the Kodiak Livestock Growers Association's suggestion that protection be withdrawn on bears on the northeast end of Kodiak Island was sent to Clarence Rhode, U. S. Fish and Wildlife head at Juneau, Tuesday by local big game guides.

Following a meeting Monday night the following five guides and local residents signed the telegram: H. L. "Doc" Rochelle, partner in the Club Unique, Pat Cannon, president of the United Fishermen of Alaska, Alf Madsen, Oscar Nelson and Eli Metrokin, fishermen.

The telegram pointed to the money the town received from sportsmen who come here to hunt bear and pointed out that the guides feel the present laws offer sufficient protection to the cattle.

The suggestion sent by the C of C and KLGA asked that a line be drawn from Viekoda Bay to Ugak Bay and that an open season on bear be allowed northeast of this line. It was stated that cattle depredation by bear was hurting the cattlemen financially.

Flying Saucers Big Navy Balloons

New York (AP)— A Navy official confirmed today that "flying saucers" really existed, but actually were huge plastic ballons used in high-altitude cosmic ray studies.

Dr. Urner Liddel, chief of the nuclear physics branch of the Office of Naval Research. made this disclosure in an article in the current Look Magazine.

The Navy balloons, Liddel declared, were 100 feet in diameter and sometimes rose to a height of 19 miles. He added that winds might sweep them along at 200 miles an hour.

At dusk, the slanting rays of the sun lighted up the balloons' bottoms, giving them the saucer-like appearances, Liddel said.

Liddel said the existence of the big balloons was kept secret because the project was connected with atomic developments.

These balloons, (called skyhooks by the Navy), were first used in 1947, about the first time the disks were first sighted.

Juneau (AP)—A year round open season on Kodiak bears was asked this week in a joint memorial introduced in the House.

The measure calling the bears a menace to livestock, was introduced by Reps. Chester C. Carlson of Cordova and Jack Scavenius of Anchorage, both Democrats.

It said that the records show more than 200 head of livestock were killed in recent years by Kodiak bears.

Introduction of the memorial brought on a clash between Karl Brunstad, who took the Livestock Growers' recommendation to Juneau, and Clarence Rhode, Alaska Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Rhode contented that most cattle casualties are due to weakness of cattle at the time of winter foraging season when they succumb to obstacles that wouldn't bother them later in the season.

He predicted that an open season on Kodiak Island would exterminate the bears and destroy one of Kodiak's major attractions and source of income. He added, "there is plenty of room on the island for both bear and cattle."

Brunstad hotly retorted from the gallery that even the game commission literature conceded the brownies were bigger on Kodiak than in Katmai monument.

The vote on the memorial, which is only a recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior, was postponed at the request of Amelia Gunderson, Ketchikan, who said, "We have heard nothing but bear stories all day and I don't want to vote now without thinking about them."

Become Citizens

Eric Blankenburg, formerly a German subject, received his American citizenship papers in District Court this week. He is owner of the Kodiak Jewelry store.

David Cassar, of Syrian birth, also became a naturalized American citizen during Thursday's session of the court.

Playschool Off

Play school for four and five year old youngsters at the Community Center has been discontinued until further notice because of measles in town.

1243 Rockwell Avenue
nahe Ost 12ter Strasse
Bureaustunden: Jeden Werktag von 9 Uhr vorm. bis 5 Uhr nachm.
Samstag von 9 bis 12 Uhr.
Telephon: MAin 1-5954

Siebenbürgisch Amerikanisches

Volksblatt

Offizielles Organ
des Zentral-Verbandes und
des Sängerbundes
der Siebenbürger Sachsen
von Amerika
und T. S. J. A.

Jahrgang 45 (Transylvania-American Peoples Journal) Cleveland, Ohio, Donnerstag, den 1. März 1951

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Blvd.

Plaene fuer den Bau ... 12 Fluechtlingss...dten

Die Geldbeschaffung soll aber erst dann in Angriff genommen werden, wenn alles "klappen" sollte.

Heidelberg. — In der Bundesrepublik wurden in den letzten Jahren mehrere Flüchtlingssiedlungen errichtet, denen Industriebetriebe angeschlossen sind und die vielen Heimatlosen wieder zu einer neuen Existenz verhalfen. Eine der größten und bekanntesten ist die Siedlung „Espelkamp" in Westfalen auf dem Gelände einer ehemaligen Munitionsfabrik. Dort wurden für mehr als 5,000 Heimatvertriebene Wohnstätten und 1,800 Arbeitsstätten geschaffen. Espelkamp soll nach seinem Ausbau 10,000 Flüchtlingen eine neue Heimat geben. Die Siedlung wurde im Auftrag des Evangelischen Hilfswerks und der westfälischen Landeskirche unter Leitung des früheren J. G. Vorstandsmitgliedes Dr. Max Ilgner gebaut. Dr. Ilgner faßte während der Zeit seiner Gefangenschaft im Nörnberger J. G. Prozeß den Entschluß, den Rest seines Lebens der tatkräftigen Hilfe für heimatlose Menschen zu widmen. Er ging bei der Anlage der Siedlung von dem Prinzip aus, daß den Heimatlosen zuerst Arbeit und Verdienst verschafft werden soll. Wenn sie ein festes Arbeitseinkommen haben und Miete zahlen können, ist die Grundlage für den Wohnungsbau gegeben.

Außer Espelkamp gibt es noch andere ähnliche ehemalige Wehrmachtsgelände, die alle Voraussetzungen zum Bau von Siedlungen mitbringen. Nach dem Vorbild von Espelkamp sind noch 12 Flüchtlingsstädte geplant. Dr. Ilgner strebt dazu die Gründung einer Internationalen Gesellschaft für christlichen Aufbau in Deutschland mit dem Sitz in Heidelberg an. Die geplanten 12 Städte mit je 10,000 bis 15,000 Einwohnern sollen hauptsächlich in den drei größten Flüchtlingsländern Schleswig-Holstein, Niedersachsen und Bayern gebaut werden. Es ist daran gedacht, in sechs Städten vorwiegend evangelische und in der anderen Hälfte vorwiegend katholische Flüchtlinge anzusiedeln. Die karitative Arbeit wird den Kirchen übertragen. Gegenüber Flüchtlings-Stadtrand Siedlungen haben diese Städte den Vorteil der wirtschaftlichen Geschlossenheit und Unabhängigkeit. In den Städten sollen vor allem die etwa 25,000 heimat- und existenzlos gewordenen und bereits wieder angelaufenen Flüchtlingsbetriebe angesiedelt werden. Ihre Kreditwürdigkeit wird vorher genau geprüft. Sie bilden das wirtschaftliche Kernstück für das industrielle Wachstum nach vorher festgelegten Plänen. Angesehene Unternehmen des In- und Auslandes sollen vielleicht zur Beteiligung herangezogen werden.

Die Finanzierung dieses großzügigen Städtebauprogramms mit insgesamt 150,000 bis 180,000 Wohnungen und 35,000 bis 50,000 Arbeitsplätzen soll durch eine internationale Anleihe erfolgen. Sie wäre gedeckt durch den Wert der 12 ehemals militärischen Anlagen (jede rund 10 Millionen Mark), die Aktiven von Industrieprojekten, die in die Anleihe einbezogen werden, und die öffentlichen Versorgungsbetriebe. Die Bundesregierung müßte der Gesellschaft ein 90jähriges Erbbaurecht erteilen oder ihr die Anlagen zu Eigentum übertragen. Zur Vorbereitung und Auflage der Anleihe ist ein internationales Bankenkonsortium mit 60 Prozent amerikanischer, 20 Prozent deutscher, 10 Prozent französischer und schweizerischer sowie zehn Prozent englischer und schwedischer Beteiligung geplant. Verhandlungen über eine Anleihe sollen jedoch erst bei Aussicht auf Erfolg geführt werden.

DPs erhalten jetzt provisorische Identitaetskarten

Wie die „Displaced Persons Commission" in Washington jetzt mitteilt, werden für diejenigen Einwanderer, die nach dem DP-Gesetz hier eintreffen, provisorische Anmeldekarten für Ausländer (temporary alien Registration cards) ausgestellt werden, um den DPs ein offizielles Ausweispapier zu geben, bis die permanenten Karten verfügbar sind.

Die provisorischen Identitätskarten sollen für diejenigen Einwanderer, die sich bereits auf dem Wege nach den U. S. befinden, im Eintrittshafen ausgestellt werden, bis ihre Ausgabe in Europa durchgeführt werden kann. Die U. S. D. P-Kommission empfiehlt den privaten Hilfsorganisationen und den staatlichen Kimmissionen und Komitees, die potentiellen Arbeitgeber der Einwanderer besonders in denjenigen Industrien, wo der Besitz einer Ausländermeldekarte die Voraussetzung für die Umstellung ist, auf den Zweck und die Gültigkeitsdauer der provisorischen Karten hinzuweisen. Die provisorische Karte ist ein gesetzlicher Identifizierungs-Ausweis, der eine Gültigkeit von zwei bis drei Monaten besitzt, innerhalb deren die Vorbereitung und Zustellung der permanenten Karte durchgeführt wird.

Die provisorischen Karten werden von jetzt ab vom Inspektor im Ursprungsland in Europa ausgestellt, der alle Angaben auf der Karte mit Ausnahme des Zulassungsdatums ausfüllt. Die Karte wird dem Visum beigefügt und muß am Eintrittshafen dem Aufnahmebeamten zur Ausfüllung des Datums der Zulassung ausgehändigt werden.

Der Inspektor des Ursprungslandes bedient sich hierfür des Formulars I-151 (Ausgabe vom 14. Januar 1949.) Der Name des Einwanderers und andere zweckdienliche Angaben, wie die Antragsnummer des Visums, müssen auf einer Seite der Karte vermerkt sein. Außerdem muß auf der Karte ein Stempel sichtbar sein, der angibt, daß der Karteninhaber „als verdrängte Perion unter Sektion 5 des Oeffentlichen Gesetzes No. 555" das Land betreten hat.

Stempel auf der Rückseite

Auf der Rückseite der Karte wird sich auf dem Platz, der normalerweise für die „Photographie des Inhabers" bestimmt ist, ein Stempelvermerk befinden, der lautet: „Provisorische Bestätigung — gültig für drei Monate nach dem auf der Rückseite vermerkten Zulassungsdatum." Die Karten erhalten vom Aufnahmebeamten den Zulassungsstempel und werden dem Inhaber zurückgegeben.

Danach werden die Visen an das Zentralbüro geschickt, wo sie auf dem üblichen Wege bearbeitet werden. Das reguläre Formular I-151 (Ausgabe vom 3. Januar 1950) wird im Zentralbüro fertiggestellt und mit den Akten an den Wohnbezirk der betreffenden Person geschickt, der die permanente Karte dann dem Einwanderer übersendet. Die regulären „Alien registration cards" werden vom „Immigration and Naturalization Service" ausgestellt, nicht von der DI-Kommission. Alle Mitteilungen für Nichtzustellung oder Verlust der Karten müssen daher im Bezirksbüro der Einwanderer anderungsbehörde gemacht werden.

Normalerweise werden die Akten über jeden Ausländer von Washington an das Bezirksbüro des Gebietes geschickt, wo sich der Ausländer der Meldung nach aufhält. Wenn sich daher der Einwanderer an die Adresse begibt, die auf seinem Visum vrmerkt ist, muß ihm die Karte normalerweise ohne viel Verzug zugestellt werden. Aendert sich die Adresse, weil der Einwanderer an einer anderen Stellung untergebracht wird, dann schickt die D. P.-Kommission dem Einwanderungs- und Naturalisierungsdienst die neue Adresse des Immigranten, und Akten und Identitätskarte folgen ihm an die neue Adresse. Das geschieht natürlich nicht, wenn der Einwanderer von sich aus seinen Wohnort wechselt, ohne dies rechtzeitig den Einwanderungsbehörden mitzuteilen.

Wer Schwierigkeiten hat, eine zufriedenstellende Antwort auf dem Ortsbüro der Einwanderungsbehörden zu erhalten, wende sich unter Erklärung seines Falles an den „Immigration and Naturalization Service", 19th & East Capitol Streets, Washington, 25, D. C.

Jede Adressenänderung mitteilen

Nach dem neuen Gesetz für „innere Sicherheit" vom Jahre 1950, der eine Abänderung de s„Alien Registratio nAct of 1940" darstellt, müssen sich jetzt alle Ausländer in der Zeit vom 1. bis 10. Januar jeden Jahres bei den Einwanderungsbehörden melden. Obwohl jetzt keine gesetzliche Verpflichtung mehr für die Ausländer besteht, jede Adressenänderung innerhalb von 5 Tagen ucha ihrer Durchführung den Einwanderungsbehörden bekanntzugeben, fordert die D. P.-Kom. alle ehemaligen DPs dringend auf, weiterhin jede Adressenänderung den Behörden mitzuteilen, damit der augenblickliche Aufenthaltsort des Einwanderers immer festgestellt werden kann und seine Akte nan das Büro de sneuen Aufenthaltsortes weitergeleitet zu werden vermögen.

Erfolgt diese Meldung regelmäßig, so erhält der Ausländer seine Meldekarte rechtzeitig und braucht auch keinerlei Komplikationen bei der Stellungs des Antrages auf Gewährleistung der U. S. Staatsbürgerschaft zu befürchten.

Bestgekleidete in oder ohne Uniform

Der bestgekleidete Mann im Lande, in oder ohne Uniform, ist der Titel, der in New York von der National Association of Retail Clothiers and Furnishers dem General Eisenhower verliehen wurde. Der General ist hier in verschiedener Aufmachung zu sehen. Zu den ersten zehn des Landes gehoeren ausser ihm Bob Hope, der New Yorker Polizeikommissar Thomas Murphy, der TV-Stern Ed Herlihy, der New York Yankees Shortstop Phil Rizzuto, Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, TV-Produzent Dan Seymour, Gregory Peck, Teppichfabrikant Edward Fields und der Komiker Jan Murphy.

Vom kuerzlichen Brand des Muenchner Hofbraeuhauses

München. — Im Hofbräuhaus am Platzl begann der Fasching mit einem Wiener Walzerabend. „Johann Strauß im Hofbräuhaus" war das Motto. Es war die erste von 32 geplanten Faschingsfeiern. Gegen 8 Uhr standen bereits lange Menschenreihen vor der Garderobenausgabe; 4 Portiers waren mit dem Einlaß beschäftigt. Die neuen Hofbräuhauspächter, Franz und Therese Trimborn, hatten für eine geschmackvolle Dekoration des Festsaales gesorgt. Entlang des 41 Meter langen Tonnengewölbes hingen rotgelbe Girlanden, die drei hiesigen Lüster waren in HB-Kronen verwandelt, an denen rote und gelbe Lampions wie Rubine leuchteten.

Gegen 22 Uhr waren Saal und Galerie gefüllt. „Wir rechnen heute abend mit etwa 1300 Personen im Festsaal und in den Nebenräumen," sagte zuversichtlich der Direktor des Hofbräuhauses. Karl Wälde, in der Maske des Walzerkönigs, brachte mit seiner Kapelle den rechten Schwung auf das Parkett. Michl Ehbauer sprach launig, Käthe Valenkina sang zu den Klängen des schönen Blauen Donau Walzers, Käthe Tellheim jodelte. Der Hofbräuhauswirt meinte zu seiner Gattin: „Komm, geh ma ins Stüberl, da san ma z'wui Leit." Eine dichte, prächtig gelaunte Menschenmenge wogte im Walzertakt im Samba- und Foxschritt. In dem vor dem Saal aufgebauten Schießstand hatte Kitty, die Steilwandfahrerin von der Wiesn, alle Hände voll zu tun. — „Heit geht's G'schäft guat," verriet sie. Bis 3 Uhr früh sollte die Veranstaltung dauern.

Plötzlich gegen 3.30 Uhr — die Walzerklänge waren kaum verklungen — bemerkten späte Faschingsbummler, daß aus dem östlichen Teil des Dachstuhls des Hofbräuhauses Flammen zum Nachthimmel loderten. Feuerwehr- und Polizeisirenen heulten durch die Nachtruhe. In Minutenschnelle spielte sich ein Drama ab. Großfeuer-Alarm! 7 Löschgruppen, 4 Kraftfahr-Drehleitern, ein Funkkommandowagen, ein Sanitätsauto und 5 Löschgruppen der Freiwilligen Feuerwehr rasten zum Platzl. Die Polizei sperrte sofort den weiteren Umkreis des Brandherdes ab. Hydranten werden aufgerissen, Leitern recken sich in die Höhe. Mehrere hundert Zuschauer, denen die prasselnden Flammen die angeheiterte Stimmung verschlagen hatten, werden Zeugen des Großfeuers. Umsichtig werden die noch im Hofbräuhaus anwesenden Personen evakuiert. Mit 13 Rohren greift die Feuerwehr die sich rasch erweiternden Brandstellen an. Trotz fortgesetzter Einsturzgefahr der Saaldecke gehen die weder Gefahr noch Anstrengung scheuenden Feuerwehrmänner, bei stärkster Rauchentwicklung, gegen den Brandherd von innen vor. An der niedrigen Hofeinfahrt des Hofbräuhauses bleiben die Drehleitern der Feuerwehr hängen. Tragbare Leitergeräte werden trotz größter Schwierigkeiten in den Hof gebracht.

Stundenlang ringt die Feuerwehr mit den Flammen. Unter den Zuschauern bemerkt man den Wirt des Hofbräuhauses, bleich und verzweifelt. Er führt die Ursache auf Sabotage zurück. An der Brandstätte sieht man Finanzminister Dr. Zorn, Staatssekretär Dr. Ringelmann und Oberbürgermeister Wimmer.

Auch die Kriminalpolizei ist am Platzl eingetroffen; zusammen mit der Feuerwehr versucht sie, die Brandursache zu klären. Nach Mitteilung des Polizeipräsidiums liegen keine Anzeichen einer Brandstiftung vor. Das Feuer soll durch Kurzschluß oder durch Funken der Klima-Anlage im Ansaugschacht entstanden sein.

Große Schwierigkeiten bereiteten der Feuerwehr Oeffnungen in der Brandmauer, die als Entlüftungsanlagen dienten. Die Aufräumungsarbeiten nahmen mehrere Stunden in Anspruch. Etwa 40 Prozent des Dachstuhles und ein Viertel der Saaldecke wurden von den Flammen vernichtet. Der Gesamtschaden wird auf rund 150,000 Mark geschätzt. Daß er nicht größer ist, ist das Verdienst der Feuerwehr, die mit großer Umsicht und Kaltblütigkeit arbeitete.

Thema der „Fliegenden Scheiben wieder akut

Der Sache soll auf den Grund gegangen werden.

Scituate, Mass. — Dr. Anthony O. Mirarchie, der sich früher als Wissenschaftler für die Luftwaffe betätigte, erteilte den Rat, daß man Radar- und Beobachtungsstationen errichte, um den „fliegenden Scheiben" auf den Grund zu gehen, die ein neues Pearl Harbor herbeiführen könnten.

Als Beauftragter der Luftwaffe ist er 300 Berichten über „fliegende Scheiben" auf den Grund gegangen.

Er setzt sich dabei über die Erklärungen von Dr. Urner Liddell, eines für die Flotte arbeitenden Wissenschaftlers, hinweg, daß es sich um plastische Ballons handle, die von der Flotte zum Studium von Luftströmungen in die oberen Atmosphären entsandt worden seien. Nach seiner Möglichkeit solle man die Möglichkeit von Experimenten durch einen Feind der Vereinigten Staaten nicht außer acht lassen. Wenn die „fliegenden Scheiben" von einer feindlichen Macht ausgesandt werden, dann müßte man mit der Möglichkeit eines schlimmeren Pearl Harbors rechnen, als wir erlebt haben, sagte er.

Er tritt für eine bedeutende Geldbewilligung für die Luftwaffe ein, um diesen mysteriösen Phänomen auf den Grund zu gehen. Die von der Flotte gemachten Beobachtungen stellt er als ungenau hin. Man wiege sich nur in eine falsche Sicherheit ein.

Keine deutschen Legionaere

Bonn. — Die Bundesregierung ist von amerikanischer Seite darüber unterrichtet worden, daß vorläufig keine Deutschen für die von General Eisenhower erwähnte „Freiheitslegion" angeworben werden sollten, teilte ein amtlicher Sprecher in Bonn mit. In Kreisen der Bundesregierung wird dazu betont, daß die vorbereitete Novelle zum Strafrecht die Anwerbung deutscher Legionäre für Söldnertruppen innerhalb des Bundesgebietes verbieten wird. Der Bonner Sprecher führte an, daß zwei amerikanische Senatoren in einem Senatsunterausschuß vorgeschlagen hätten, eine Freiwilligenlegion aus Flüchtlingen von jenseits des Eisernen Vorhangs aufzustellen. Eisenhower habe aber darauf hingewiesen, daß in der deutschen Gesetzgebung eine Anwerbung von Freiwilligen nicht zugelassen sei.

Sensasion im DP-Lager

In Fleischsendung Gold im Werte von $50,000 gefunden.

Bremen. — Seitens der zuständigen militärischen Stellen ist geäußert worden, daß man die Absicht habe, Arthur Gershon, einen Verwaltungsbeamten des DP-Lagers Grohn recht genau zu vernehmen, weil es möglich sein könnte, daß er mit dem großen Geld- und Diamanten-Schmuggel in Verbindung stehen könne, der in letzter Zeit aufgedeckt worden sei.

Gershon wurde von der Militärbehörde verhaftet, als er sich bemühte, in den Besitz von einigen kleinen Paketen zu gelangen, die Blechbüchsen mit der Aufschrift „Kosher Meat enthielten. Die Dosen wurden geöffnet. Sie enthielten Gold, dessen Wert auf $50,000 geschätzt worden ist.

Er wurde später dem Gericht zugeführt. Der Richter setzte eine sehr hohe Bürgschaft für Gershon fest. Er muß weiter in Haft bleiben.

Wie Oberst George B. Buell, der Kommandeur der militärischen Zollüberwachungs-Polizei, später bekannt gab, sei ihm vor einiger Zeit ein anonymes Schreiben zugegangen, in welchem es hieß, daß man nach Paketen Ausschau halten sollte, die für das Lager Grohn bestimmt seien und die Aufschrift „Kosher Meat" führen würden. Die Pakete wurden dann auch im Hauptpostamt Bremen gefunden und vorläufig beschlagnahmt, bis Gershon erschien und sie anforderte.

Als Gershon verhaftet wurde, hatte er an die $3,000 in „Script", an die $6,000 in Postanweisungen und an die 2,000 Deutsche Mark bei sich. Er wurde unter scharfe Bewachung gestellt, nachdem er versucht hatte, aus dem Gewahrsam auszubrechen, wie amtlich gemeldet worden ist.

Das Lager Grohn ist für Verschleppte bestimmt, die später nach ihren Heimatländern zurückgebracht werden sollen. Es wird für möglich gehalten, daß dieses Lager einer internationalen Schmugglerbande als „Durchgangsstation" gedient hat. Auch das soll nunmehr untersucht werden.

Alliierte in Deutschland unterliegen Zollkontrolle

Bonn. — Die Angehörigen der alliierten Streitkräfte und der übrigen alliierten Organisationen im Bundesgebiet unterliegen nach einem neu verkündeten Gesetz der alliierten Hohen Kommission in Zukunft voll der Zollkontrolle durch deutsche und alliierte Beamte an den Grenzen der Bundesrepublik. Alliierte dürfen das Bundesgebiet nur noch über bestimmte Grenzübergangsstellen betreten. Ein Teil dieser Stellen ist mit alliierten Beamten besetzt. An den übrigen Grenzposten sind die deutschen Zollbeamten zur Zolluntersuchung einschließlich der körperlichen Durchsuchung ermächtigt.

CSR eroeffnet Schundmuseum

Prag. — Ein Museum mit Erzeugnissen schlechter Qualität ist von der tschechoslowakischen Regierung in dem Bemühen eröffnet worden, die Leistungen der Industrie zu verbessern.

DiSalle hat eine neue Preis-Formel

Hoechstpreise auf eine Reihe Waren durch Kontrolle des Spielraums zwischen Einkaufs- und Verkaufspreisen ersetzt.

Johnston verfuegt Liberalisierung der Lohnkontrolle — Hausfrauen widersetzen sich hohen Fleischpreisen.

Washington. — Die Regierung hob die Preissperre für die Kleinverkaufspreise von Kleidung, Möbeln, Teppichen, Lampen, Kurzwaren und Haushalts-Textilien auf und fror statt dessen den „Spielraum" des Kleinhändlers zwischen dem was er bezahlt und was er erhält ein. Die Folge werden sicherlich viele Preiserhöhungen sein, wenn die Kleinhändler ihren Kunden die bereits von Großhändlern vorgenommenen Erhöhungen aufhalsen. Beamte sagten, sie erwarteten auch einige Preisreduktionen. Preisdirektor DiSalle erklärte Berichterstattern, seiner Ansicht nach würden mehr Preise zurückgerollt als erhöht werden.

DiSalles Büro für Preisstabilisierung gab in sorgfältig gewählten Worten die ersten „Margin-Typ" Verfügungen heraus, deren Zweck es sein soll, die Preiskontrollen auf eine fairere und besser durchführbare Basis zu stellen als dies bei der Sperre vom 25. Januar der Fall war. Die Maßnahme betrifft etwa 233,0000 Kleinverkaufsgeschäfte und schätzungsweise 200,000 verschiedene Waren. Die Händler müssen sich bis spätestens 29. März auf die neue Basis umstellen und ihre Waren bis 1. Juli mit Verkaufspreisen markieren.

Es wurde von DiSalle erklärt, das Hauptziel dieser Regulation sei es, typische vorkoreanische Aufmarkierungs-Praktiken im Kleinhandel einzuführen. Der Prozentsatz der Spielräume oder Aufmarkierungen wurde nicht auf ein vorkoreanisches Datum zurückgerollt. Im Gegenteil: jeder Kleinhändler berechnet seinen Prozentsatz, welcher am vergangenen Samstag, den 24. Februar, erhielt.

Es war die zweite größere Maßnahme inbezug auf Kontrollen. Die Nationale Produktions-Autorität stellte nämlich ein System auf, unter welchem Geschäftsleute, öffentliche und private Institute und andere eine Prioritäts-Klassifizierung anwenden können, um beschränkte Mengen knapper Waren für Instandhaltung, Reparatur und Operationen zu erhalten. Die Verfügung gilt nicht für Materialien, die in Endprodukte gehen. Man braucht für diesen Zweck auf seine Bestellung oder ein angeheftetes Stück Papier nur zu schreiben: Do-97, certified unter „NPA Regulation Four" und dies zu unterzeichnen.

Wirtschafts-Stabilisator Johnston verfügte unterdessen die Inkraftsetzung einer Formel, unter welcher Lohnerhöhungen auf 10 Prozent über das Niveau vom 15. Januar 1950 beschränkt werden. Er ersuchte die Lohnstabilisierungsbehörde, sofort sieben Aenderungen zu billigen, welche die Höchstlöhne weiter liberalisieren. Die Hauptänderungen sehen die Anerkennung von Lohneskalator-Klauseln, wenn dementsprechende Kontrakte an oder vor dem 25. Januar dieses Jahres unterzeichnet wurden. Der Wert von Wohlfahrts- und Pensionsplänen soll außerdem von den Höchstlöhnen ausgenommen werden.

Das Gemeinsame Kongreßkomitee für den Wirtschaftsbericht veröffentlichte das Ergebnis eines Studiums seines Stabes. In dem Bericht hieß es, die Preise würden vielleicht ums fünffache über das gegenwärtige Niveau in die Höhe gehen, wenn nicht sofort eine scharfe Steuererhöhung vorgenommen werde. Kontrollen von Löhnen, Preisen und Produktion allein könnten dem Inflationsdruck keinen Widerstand leisten.

(In verschiedenen Landesteilen begannen unterdessen Hausfrauen, selbst eine Preiskontrolle eigener Art auszuüben, indem sie sich einfach weigerten, das teure Fleisch zu kaufen. Auch in Cleveland machte sich eine derartige Tendenz bemerkbar. Vertreter des Fleischgeschäftes hier berichteten, daß die Nachfrage merklich zurückging. Falls der Käuferwiderstand gegen die hohen Preise anhält, mag es möglich sein, daß in etwa einer Woche eine Erniedrigung der Fleischpreise eintritt. Auch die Händler und Fleischer leiden unter den Kontrollmaßnahmen. Preise am Counter sind eingefroren, während es bei Viehpreisen nicht der Fall ist.)

Deutsche Plantagenarbeit in Abessinien

Witzenhausen. — Der aus Hessen stammende Afrika-Pflanzer von Strenge hat vom Kaiser von Abessinien den Auftrag erhalten, bei Harrar ein 4000 Hektar großes Gebiet zu bebauen, um die Eigenversorgung Abessiniens mit Kaffee, Obst, Gemüse, Milch, Butter und Käse zu verbessern. Wie die Landwirtschaftsschule und frühere Kolonialschule in Witzenhausen in Hessen mitteilte, hat von Strenge 20 deutsche Flüchtlinge ausgesucht, die er auf den neuen Plantagen beschäftigen will.

Westdeutschland stellt alle Einfuhr aus Ausland ein

Kredite der Europaeischen Zahlungsunion erschoepft — Als "Bankerotterklaerung" bezeichnet.

Bonn. — Westdeutschland, dessen Kredite der Europäischen Zahlungsunion fast erschöpft sind, stellte beinahe alle Importe aus Teilnehmerländern ein, bis wahrscheinlich strikteren Einfuhrverordnungen ausgearbeitet sind. Wirtschaftssachverständige bezeichneten dies sozusagen als eine „Erklärung des deutschen Bankrotts" und sagten baldige Reaktionen in der ganzen deutschen Aussenhandelsstruktur voraus. Man will nun sehen, was von den Importen gestrichen werden kann um kritisch knappe Devisenbestände zu sparen. Auch die Leitung der Europäischen Zahlungsunion in Paris studiert die Situation.

Die Union ist eine Art Clearing House Fonds für Liberalisierung des Austausches von Geld und Waren. Sie wurde im vergangenen September durch den Marshallplan geschaffen. 18 westeuropäische Länder sind Teilnehmer. Deutschland hat bereits den ursprünglichen Union-Kredit von $320,000,000 erschöpft, welcher bis Juli reichen sollte. Ein Sonderkredit von $120,000,000 der bis September reichen sollte, wurde ebenfalls aufgebraucht.

Deutschland war es, welches die Zahlungsunion - Bewegung führte zwecks Beseitigung der Handelsschranken. Die Deutschen behaupten nun, andere Nationen seien nicht mit ähnlichen Maßnahmen entgegen gekommen. Andere europäische Regierungsökonomen erklärten früher, Deutschland sei zu liberal gewesen und sie würden in ihren Ländern nicht soweit gehen, um ihre Wirtschaft nicht zu gefährden. Sicherlich wird die deutsche Handelskrise alle westeuropäischen Länder und andere, die mit Bonn Handel trieben, treffen.

Ausgenommen von dem neuen Verbot sind nur Einfuhrabkommen, bei denen Devisenzahlungen erst nach dem 1. Mai fällig sind, sowie bei internationalen Handels- und Industriemessen gegebene Importaufträge. In allen anderen Fällen werden Einfuhrlizenzen ohne besondere Genehmigung des Wirtschaftsministeriums nicht erteilt, selbst wenn Devisenbescheinigungen dafür bereits ausgestellt wurden. Dies gilt, bis neue Einfuhrregulationen in Kraft sind.

Wirtschaftsexperten hier haben wenig Hoffnung, daß Deutschland frische Kredite erhält. Wegen der liberalisierten deutschen Handelspraktiken führte Deutschland viel mehr Waren ein als es ausführte. Und die meisten Importe gehörten in die Luxusklasse. Vizebundeskanzler Blücher klagte über die extravaganten Einfuhren. Man befaßt sich nun mit dem Studium der Einführung einer Reihe von Wirtschaftskontrollen.

Bemerkenswerte Verfuegung Marschall Titos

Belgrad. — Wie aus zuverlässiger Quelle verlautet, hat Marschall Tito an seine Partei die Mitteilung gelangen lassen, daß er einen jeden als „Feind der Partei" ansehen würde, der es unternehmen sollte, an seiner Haltung dem Westen gegenüber Kritik zu üben.

Man habe es erreicht, mit den Westmächten auf einen guten Fuß zu kommen. Wenn man in Gefahr geraten würde, so würde man sicher nicht allein stehen. Das sollte man bedenken.

Es heißt weiter, daß Tito verboten habe, die Westmächte weiter als „Imperialisten" zu bezeichnen. Man solle „freundlichere" Ausdrücke wählen. Er werde dafür sorgen, daß dieser seiner Anweisung auch Folge geleistet würde.

BABY SITTERS ARE REMEMBERED BY LAWMAKERS

by Jim Hutcheson

JUNEAU, (AP)—The "baby sitter" seems to have become a legislatively recognized profession.

A senate bill on a $1 hourly minimum wage and a house bill for a $1 minimum wage and a 40-hour maximum week (without overtime) both included baby sitters among the exempt groups.

The legislators haven't forgotten the school girl picket line of the 1949 session. The girls showed up with picket banners after discovery that a wage-hour bill threatened their profitable business.

Disabled Fishermen

Rep. C. C. (Red) Carlson, the salty Cordova fishing veteran, is back again with another bill for the aid of sick and disabled fishermen. A similar bill fell by the wayside in the 1949 session.

The bill proposes 40 per cent of money from fishermen's licenses would go into the new fund. Benefits would be paid for injuries to fishermen at work or for occupational disease. There would be a $2,500 limit on any single case.

The bill provides for a board of seven, including the labor, health and tax commissioners and four licensed fishermen to be appointed by the governor.

WRANGELL DROPS TWO GAMES TO PETERSBURG

The Wrangell High School basketball team went to Petersburg last week end were they met the Petersburg High Vikings in the last two of a four game series with PHS. Wrangell's Wolves lost both games in Petersburg after earlier in the season splitting two games at Wrangell with the Vikings.

PHS lead the entire first game last Friday to win 53-42.

The second night Wrangell came back strong and lead the first half but Petersburg moved up to win 46-39.

Tom Maxand was high point man for Wrangell both nights with Tom Reid and Norrie Swanson high for PHS.

Wrangell boys accompanied by Coach J. J. Barnell to Petersburg were Maxand, Allan Ritchie, James Gunderson, Steel Ferguson, Eddie Bradley, Lynn Schwartz, Neil French, Jr., Kenneth Mason, Paul Thornquist, Alan Casey and Freddie Cunningham. Pat Kangas went along as team manager.

The team traveled on J. M. Steear's boat, Consul D., with rooters going on the Alasco 4 and Barracuda.

NOTICE

All customers please return empty milk bottles to store or truck for refund. Bottles are urgently needed.

NORE'S DAIRY

KENNEDY HOMESITE ELIMINATED FROM NATIONAL FOREST

Sixteen more homesites on the Alaska National Forests have been made available for patent under the applicable public land laws through the signing of Public Land Order number 696, January 16, according to information from Regional Forester B. Frank Heintzleman. The order provides for the elimination of the tracts from the national forest.

The homesite eliminated in the Petersburg division of the Tongass National Forest is that of James Ray Kennedy of the Wrangell Highway group.

The elimination of the tracts from the national forest is the first step leading towards patent. This adds to the hundreds of homesites already eliminated from the national forest since the homesite law became effective and there are many more occupied under Forest Service permit, Heintzleman pointed out. The later wil become eligible for elimination after three years residence on the area.

PRISONERS OF WAR — S. O. S.

All prisoners of war of World War II, their widows, children, parents!

The deadline for filing claims for the $1-a-day payments to prisoners of war or their survivors is March 1, 1951. The final date was fixed by law and cannot be changed by the War Claims Comission.

If you, or a member of your family, were held a prisoner of war during World War II, you may be entitled to these special Prisoner of War payments.

For official claim forms, and further information, wire, write, telephone or see the Secretary of Alaska, Juneau, or write the War Claims Comission, Washington 25, D. C.

HOME ON BARANOF

Dave Remmerden, of Irene's store, returned to Wrangell on the Baranof last Monday after a four week buying and vacation trip in the states with his wife. Mrs. Remmerden is still in the south buying for her ladies clothing store.

ALASKA TOURIST ASSOC. FILES AS CORPORATION

The Alaska Visitors Association was launched this past week in Juneau acording to word received here from R. E. "Bob" Ellis of Ketchikan who is in Juneau to attend a meeting of the group.

Articles of Incorporation for public Service, non-profit association were filed by the following temporary officers:

R. E. Ellis, president; L. A. Moore, first vice president; A. L. Kaye, second vice president; Phil Johnson, treasurer and George Sundborg, secretary.

Ellis said the AVA proposes a budget for the next biennium of $120,000, half to be subscribed by the Territory and half by private enterprise. Funds supplied by the Territory will be earmarked for national advertising only and the funds supplied by private enterprise will be used for additional expenses, such as direct mail advertising, salaries, office expenses, local publicity, and etc. A bill has been submitted to the legislature to accomplish this purpose, Ellis added.

Memberships in the AVA will be solicited shortly and as soon as the membership has assumed satisfactory proportions, an election of 12 permanent directors will be held. These directors will in turn elect the permanent officers, select and hire a fulltime executive secretary and initiate a program to bring visitors to Alaska.

FLYING SAUCERS CLAIMED REAL BY NAVY MAN

NEW YORK—A navy official confirmed this week that "flying saucers" really existed, but actually were hugh plastic ballons used in high altitude cosmic ray studies.

Dr. Urner Liddell, chief of the nuclear physics branch of the office of naval research, made this disclosure in an article in Look magazine.

Liddle said existence of the big ballons was kept secret because the project was connected with atomic development.

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GUNDERSON HERE

Fred Gunderson, general manager and superintendent of the Independent Packing Company at Ketchikan, arrived in Wrangell Wednesday afternoon from Seattle to confer with his brother George on business. He expects to return south today or tomorrow.

CEILING PRICES ON TIMBER STUMPAGE

Regional Forester B. Frank Heintzleman has established ceiling prices on stumpage for national forest timber in Alaska, and states that the temporary suspension of advertised timber sales as announced two weeks ago has been lifted. Ceiling prices have been established for all classes of forest products in accordance with the Economic Stabilization Agency general ceiling price regulation issued on January 26. These prices will apply to all timber sales, advertised or unadvertised, made by the Forest Service. There will be no change in sales procedure.

TO REPORT FOR PHYSICAL

Ralph Devenny, Jr. will leave here next Monday by air for Ft. Richardson to report for his pre-induction physical examination. He is the only Wrangell boy called in this group.

PHS TO KETCHIKAN

The Petersburg High School basketball team is scheduled to play in Ketchikan this week end to determine the southern division high school basketball champs of Southeast Alaska.

BRIDAL SHOWER GIVEN TO HONOR PAT DEVENNY

A bridal shower honoring Miss Patricia Devenny, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Devenny, was given at the home of Mrs. Marion Benjamin last Friday evening at eight o'clock. Three tables of canasta were played during the evening.

Several unusual cakes were baked for the event. One by Mrs. Doris Dierks was a pink red snapper with a notation on the card saying "Hooked at last." Another made by Mrs. Betty Larsen was a three-layer checker board cake, and Mrs. Nellie Devenny made a delicious chocalate cake.

The bride-to-be received many lovely and useful gifts for her future home.

Those invited to attend included mesdames Ema Broad, Helen Angerman, Imogene Pettigrew, Sandy Binkley, Esther Rooney, Mavis Torgramson, Winnie Williams, Doris Dierks, Nellie Devenny, Betty Larsen, Irene Lyster, Martha Wajda, Laura Bradley, Opal Lowney, Jewel Binkley and Emma McCullough.

Misses Sarah Graham, Jane Williams, Helen Angerman, Delores Paulson, Peggy Price, Pauline Remmerden, and the guest of honor, Miss Devenny.

The seventh gift opened, and traditionally indicating that person will be the next to wed, was that of Miss Pauline Remmerden.

CREW MEMBER OF BARANOF KILLED

The death of an engine room oiler aboard the S. S. Baranof was reported by the Coast Guard last week end.

Alvin Millard fell into the crank pit at 12:34 p.m. last Saturday and was killed instantly. The ship was enroute from Seattle to Ketchikan when the accident occurred.

Millard's body was put ashore at Alert Bay, B. C. and the ship continued north arriving in Wrangell last Monday.

MISS DEVENNY SOUTH

Miss Patrica Devenny, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Devenny of Wrangell, returned to Seattle by air last Sunday after visiting with her family several weeks.

She is employed in Seattle as a registered nurse and will be married there next month.

YOU HAVE A DATE -- February 24 at the FIREMEN'S BALL

Wrangell's Annual Good Time Fun-fest

COME ONE COME ALL -- to the FIRE-EATERS' BALL

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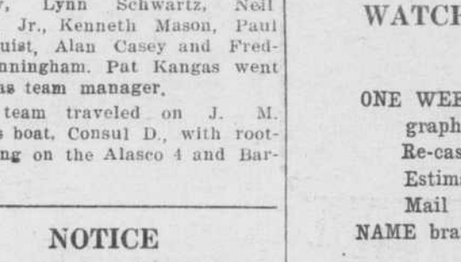

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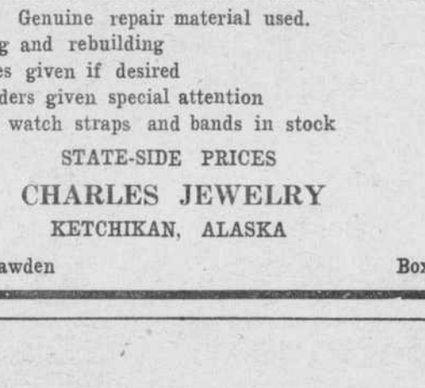

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Don't Miss These Outstanding February Events

Gold Medal Basketball Tournament

JUNEAU FEBRUARY 19 th to 24th

ACA WINTER EXCURSION FARES

Wrangell to Juneau $16.00 one way $28.80 rnd. trip

Anchorage Fur Rendezvous

FEBRUARY 20th to 25th

ACA-PNA EXCURSION FARES

Wrangell to Anchorage -- Round Trip $113.80

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